WALT DISNEY

15

€ 2,22*

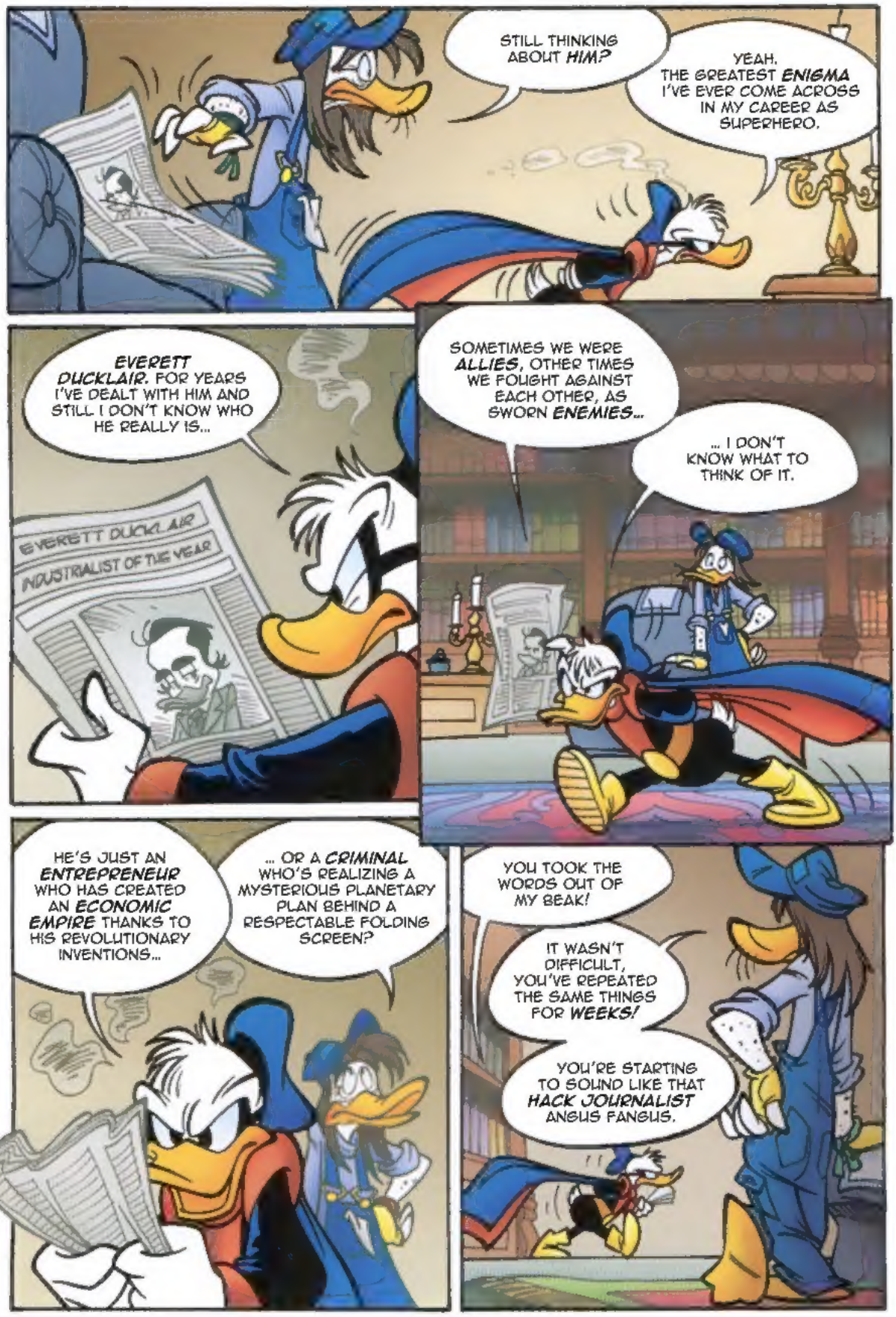
PK2

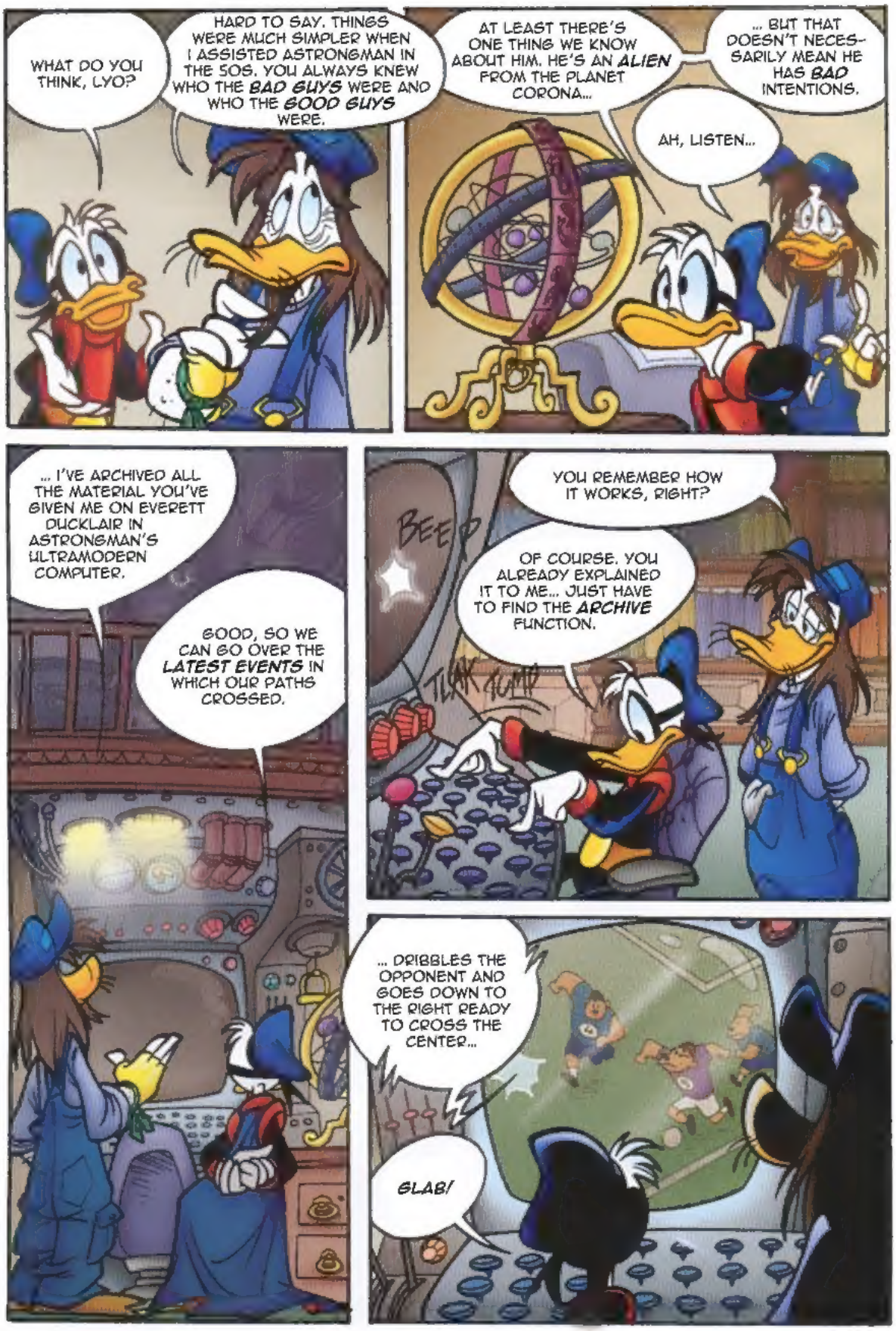
THE "QUADRILOGY"
EPISODE I

Le Storie - Cimp Verona - www.disney.it - Italy only

IL VERO NEMICO

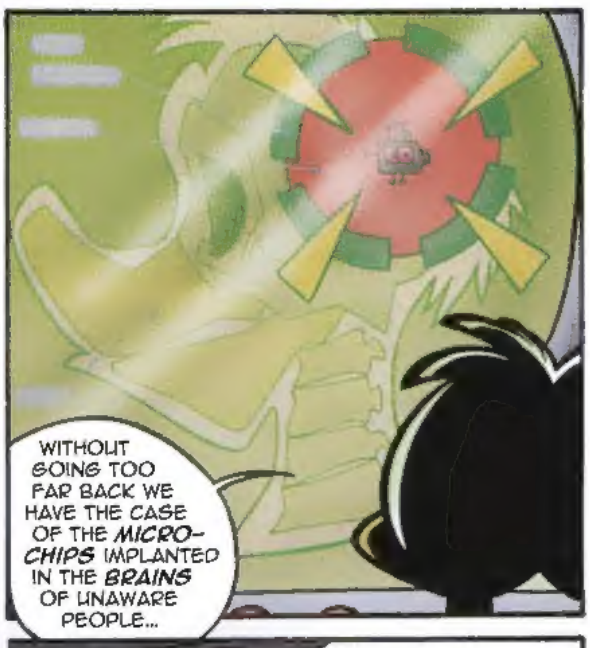
OUTSKIRTS OF DUCKBURG. THE OLD ABANDONED FACTORY CALLED CENTURY...
Walt Disney
IL VERO NEMICO
... ITS UNDERGROUND...
THAT RUG IS A MEMORY OF A TRIP TO DUCKISTAN. I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU DIDN'T COMPLETELY WEAR IT OUT.
HMM...
I-PK²-15


STILL THINKING ABOUT *HIM?*
YEAH. THE GREATEST *ENIGMA* I'VE EVER COME ACROSS IN MY CAREER AS SUPERHERO.
EVERETT DUCKLAIR. FOR YEARS I'VE DEALT WITH HIM AND STILL I DON'T KNOW WHO HE REALLY IS...
EVERETT DUCKLAIR
INDUSTRIALIST OF THE YEAR
SOMETIMES WE WERE *ALLIES*, OTHER TIMES WE FOUGHT AGAINST EACH OTHER, AS SWORN *ENEMIES*...
... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK OF IT.
HE'S JUST AN *ENTREPRENEUR* WHO HAS CREATED AN *ECONOMIC EMPIRE* THANKS TO HIS REVOLUTIONARY INVENTIONS...
... OR A *CRIMINAL* WHO'S REALIZING A MYSTERIOUS PLANETARY PLAN BEHIND A RESPECTABLE FOLDING SCREEN?
YOU TOOK THE WORDS OUT OF MY BEAK!
IT WASN'T DIFFICULT, YOU'VE REPEATED THE SAME THINGS FOR *WEEKS!*
YOU'RE STARTING TO SOUND LIKE THAT *HACK JOURNALIST* ANGUS FANGUS.

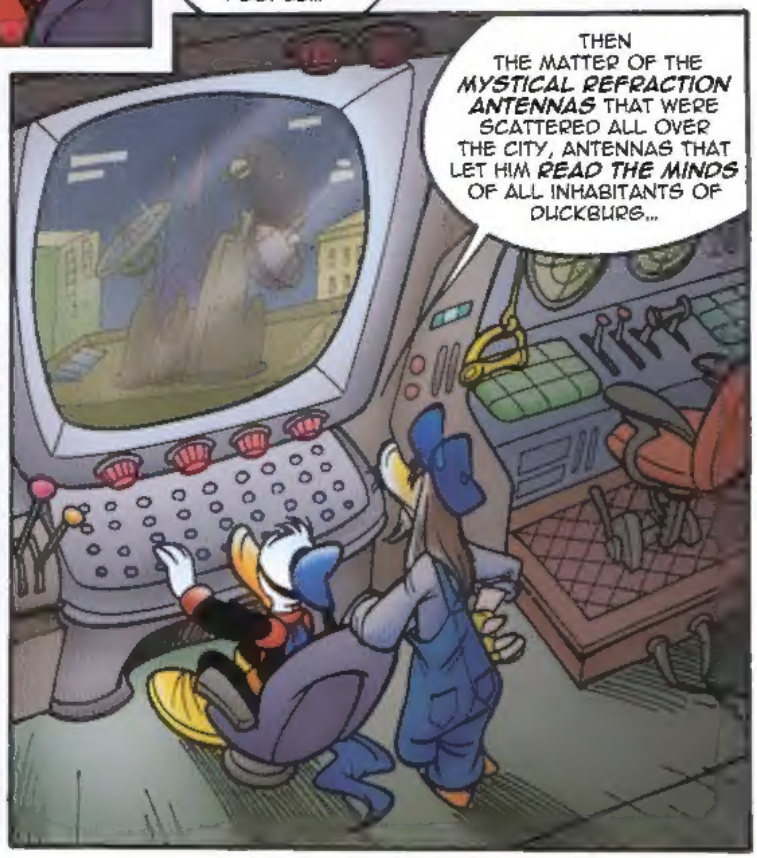

WHAT DO YOU THINK, LYO?
HARD TO SAY. THINGS WERE MUCH SIMPLER WHEN I ASSISTED ASTRONGMAN IN THE SOS. YOU ALWAYS KNEW WHO THE BAD GUYS WERE AND WHO THE GOOD GUYS WERE.
AT LEAST THERE'S ONE THING WE KNOW ABOUT HIM. HE'S AN ALIEN FROM THE PLANET CORONA...
... BUT THAT DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN HE HAS BAD INTENTIONS.
AH, LISTEN...
... I'VE ARCHIVED ALL THE MATERIAL YOU'VE GIVEN ME ON EVERETT DUCKLAIR IN ASTRONGMAN'S ULTRAMODERN COMPUTER.
GOOD, SO WE CAN GO OVER THE LATEST EVENTS IN WHICH OUR PATHS CROSSED.
BEEP
YOU REMEMBER HOW IT WORKS, RIGHT?
OF COURSE. YOU ALREADY EXPLAINED IT TO ME... JUST HAVE TO FIND THE ARCHIVE FUNCTION.
... DRIBBLES THE OPPONENT AND GOES DOWN TO THE RIGHT READY TO CROSS THE CENTER...
GLAB!

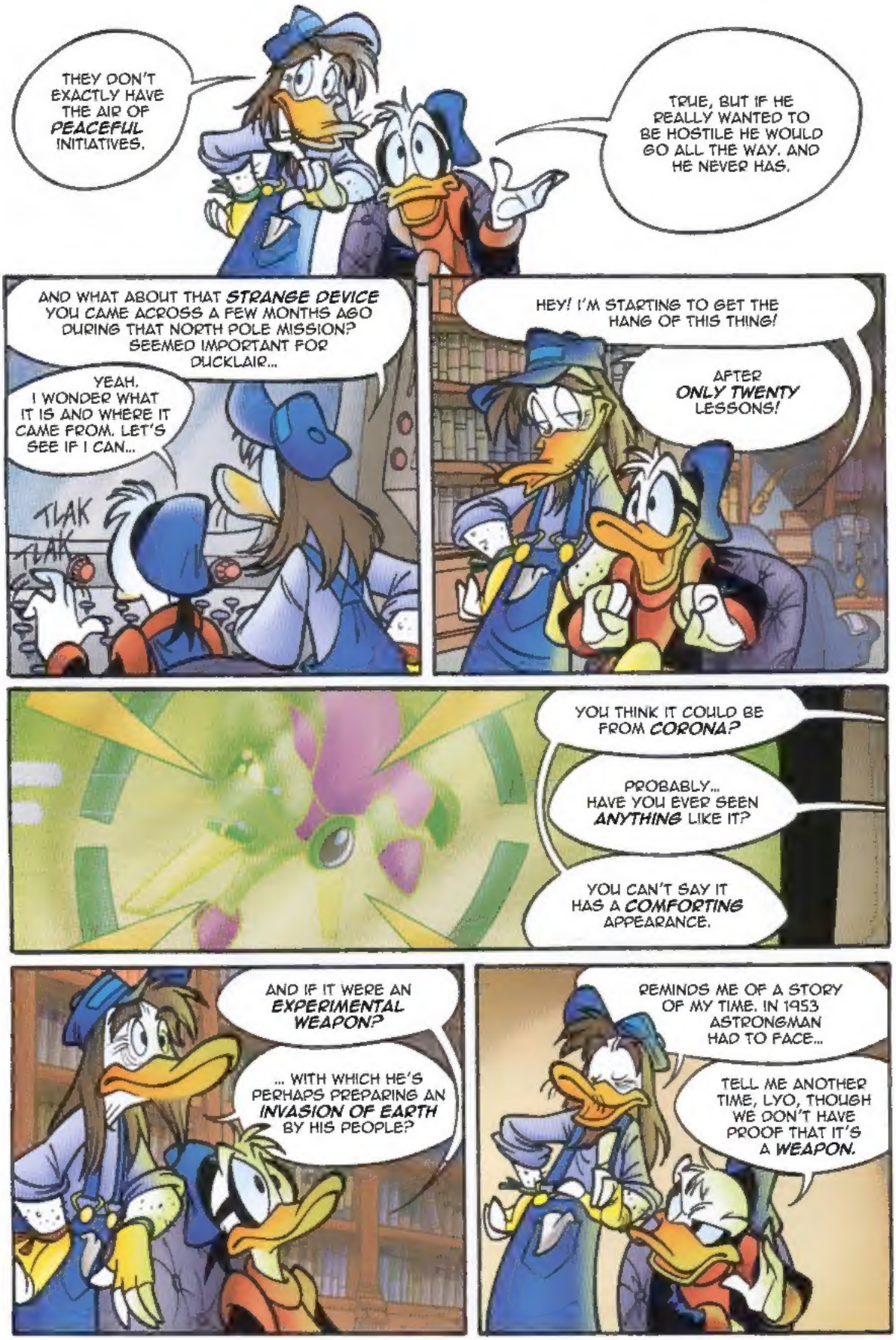
... THE FIELD IS CROWDED WITH PLAYERS, THE GOALKEEPER...
FOR THE ARCHIVE FUNCTION YOU JUST HAVE TO PRESS THE "ARCHIVE" BUTTON. STRANGE, RIGHT?
DON'T TRY TO BE FUNNY! I'D LIKE TO SEE ASTRONGMAN DEAL WITH A MODERN COMPUTER.

THIS IS A ULTRAMODERN COMPUTER!
MAYBE IN THE SOS. BAH, FORGET IT... ANYWAY, HERE IT IS!

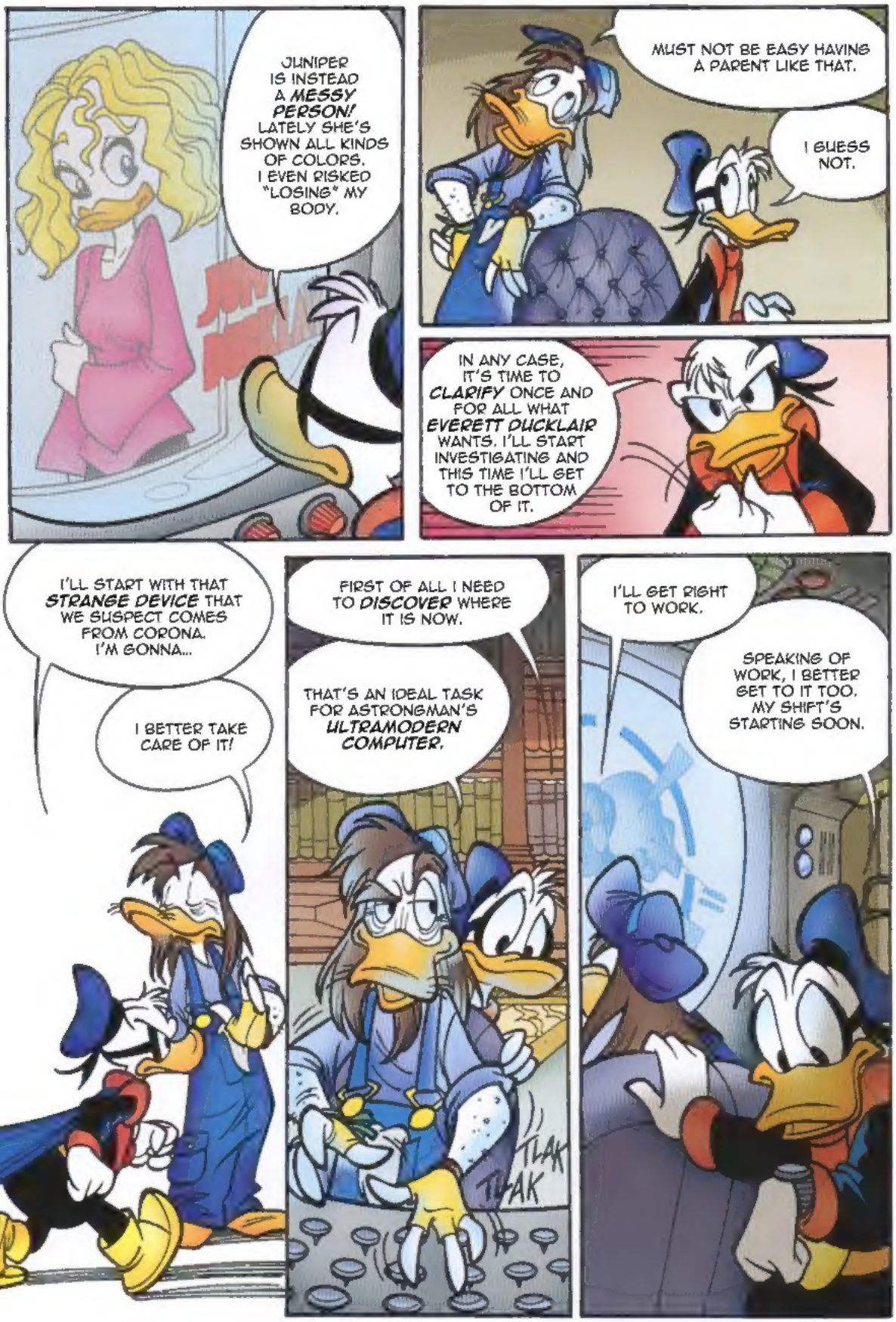

WITHOUT GOING TOO FAR BACK WE HAVE THE CASE OF THE MICRO-CHIPS IMPLANTED IN THE BRAINS OF UNAWARE PEOPLE...

... THAT COULD FORCE THEM TO PERFORM ANY TYPE OF CRIMINAL ACTION...

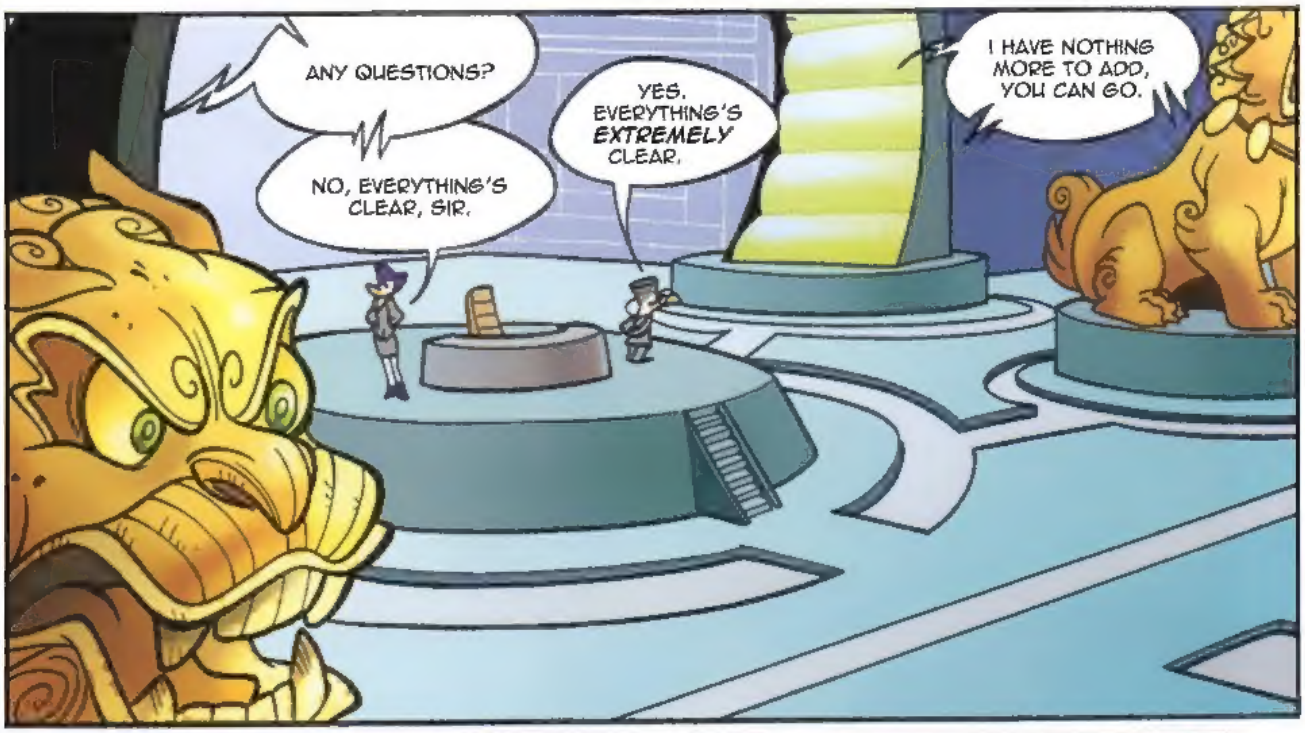

THEN THE MATTER OF THE MYSTICAL REFRACTION ANTENNAS THAT WERE SCATTERED ALL OVER THE CITY, ANTENNAS THAT LET HIM READ THE MINDS OF ALL INHABITANTS OF DUCKBURG...

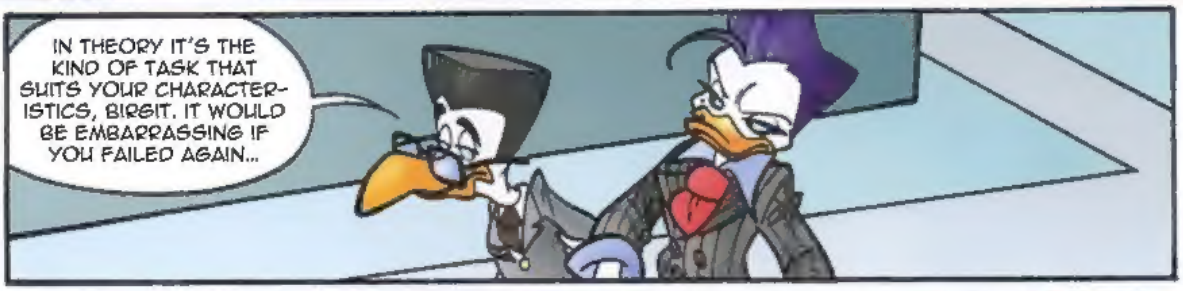

THEY DON'T EXACTLY HAVE THE AIR OF PEACEFUL INITIATIVES.
TRUE, BUT IF HE REALLY WANTED TO BE HOSTILE HE WOULD GO ALL THE WAY. AND HE NEVER HAS.
AND WHAT ABOUT THAT STRANGE DEVICE YOU CAME ACROSS A FEW MONTHS AGO DURING THAT NORTH POLE MISSION? SEEMED IMPORTANT FOR DUCKLAIR...
YEAH. I WONDER WHAT IT IS AND WHERE IT CAME FROM. LET'S SEE IF I CAN...
TLAK
TLAK
HEY! I'M STARTING TO GET THE HANG OF THIS THING!
AFTER ONLY TWENTY LESSONS!
YOU THINK IT COULD BE FROM CORONA?
PROBABLY... HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT?
YOU CAN'T SAY IT HAS A COMFORTING APPEARANCE.
AND IF IT WERE AN EXPERIMENTAL WEAPON?
... WITH WHICH HE'S PERHAPS PREPARING AN INVASION OF EARTH BY HIS PEOPLE?
REMINDS ME OF A STORY OF MY TIME. IN 1953 ASTRONGMAN HAD TO FACE...
TELL ME ANOTHER TIME, LYO, THOUGH WE DON'T HAVE PROOF THAT IT'S A WEAPON.

ANOTHER MYSTERIOUS ASPECT OF EVERETT IS HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS DAUGHTERS. I'LL GET THEIR FILE...
... TWO MINUTES LEFT OF THE FIRST HALF...
GLAB! ARCHIVE BUTTON?
REALLY?!
SUBJECT: JUNIPER
SUBJECT: KORINNA
HERE IT IS! KORINNA AND JUNIPER DUCKLAIR. SO SIMILAR IN APPEARANCE AND SO DIFFERENT IN CHARACTER.
I'VE CONFRONTED KORINNA A COUPLE OF TIMES, BUT I FEEL NO HOSTILITY TOWARDS HER.
IN FACT, I OWE A DEBT TO HER. SHE SAVED MY LIFE ONLY A FEW MONTHS AGO. I HOPE SHE ALSO MADE IT.
WELL, IF SHE DID SOMETHING LIKE THAT IT MEANS SHE'S NOT HOSTILE.
MAYBE SO...

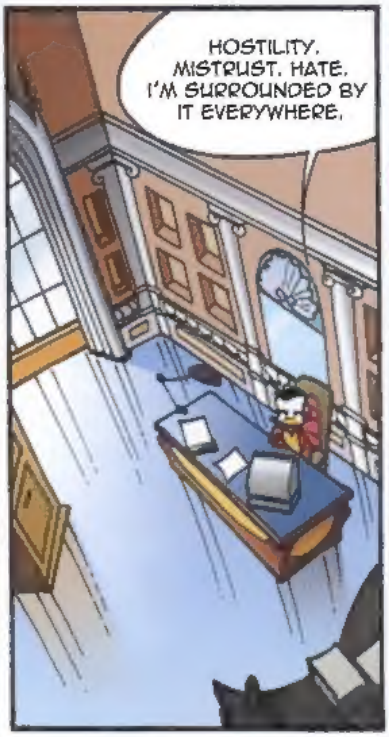

JUNIPER IS INSTEAD A MESSY PERSON! LATELY SHE'S SHOWN ALL KINDS OF COLORS. I EVEN RISKED "LOSING" MY BODY.
MUST NOT BE EASY HAVING A PARENT LIKE THAT.
I GUESS NOT.
IN ANY CASE, IT'S TIME TO CLARIFY ONCE AND FOR ALL WHAT EVERETT DUCKLAIR WANTS. I'LL START INVESTIGATING AND THIS TIME I'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF IT.
I'LL START WITH THAT STRANGE DEVICE THAT WE SUSPECT COMES FROM CORONA. I'M GONNA...
I BETTER TAKE CARE OF IT!
FIRST OF ALL I NEED TO DISCOVER WHERE IT IS NOW.
THAT'S AN IDEAL TASK FOR ASTRONGMAN'S ULTRAMODERN COMPUTER.
TLAK TLAK
I'LL GET RIGHT TO WORK.
SPEAKING OF WORK, I BETTER GET TO IT TOO. MY SHIFT'S STARTING SOON.

I WANT THIS *OPERATION* TO BE COMPLETED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
I DEMAND THAT YOU IMMEDIATELY GET TO WORK.
THE PROBE IS TO BE TRANSPORTED TO DUCKLAIR UNIVERSE.
BIRGIT, YOU'LL ORGANIZE THE TRANSPORT. I NEED YOU TO GUARANTEE *MAXIMUM* SECURITY. ONCE IT'S REACHED ITS DESTINA-TION...
... THE PROBE WILL BE HANDED OVER TO ANYMORE, WHO WILL HAVE ALREADY PREPARED A SUITABLE LABORATORY FOR IT. EVERYTHING MUST BE COMPLETED *BY TOMORROW MORNING.*

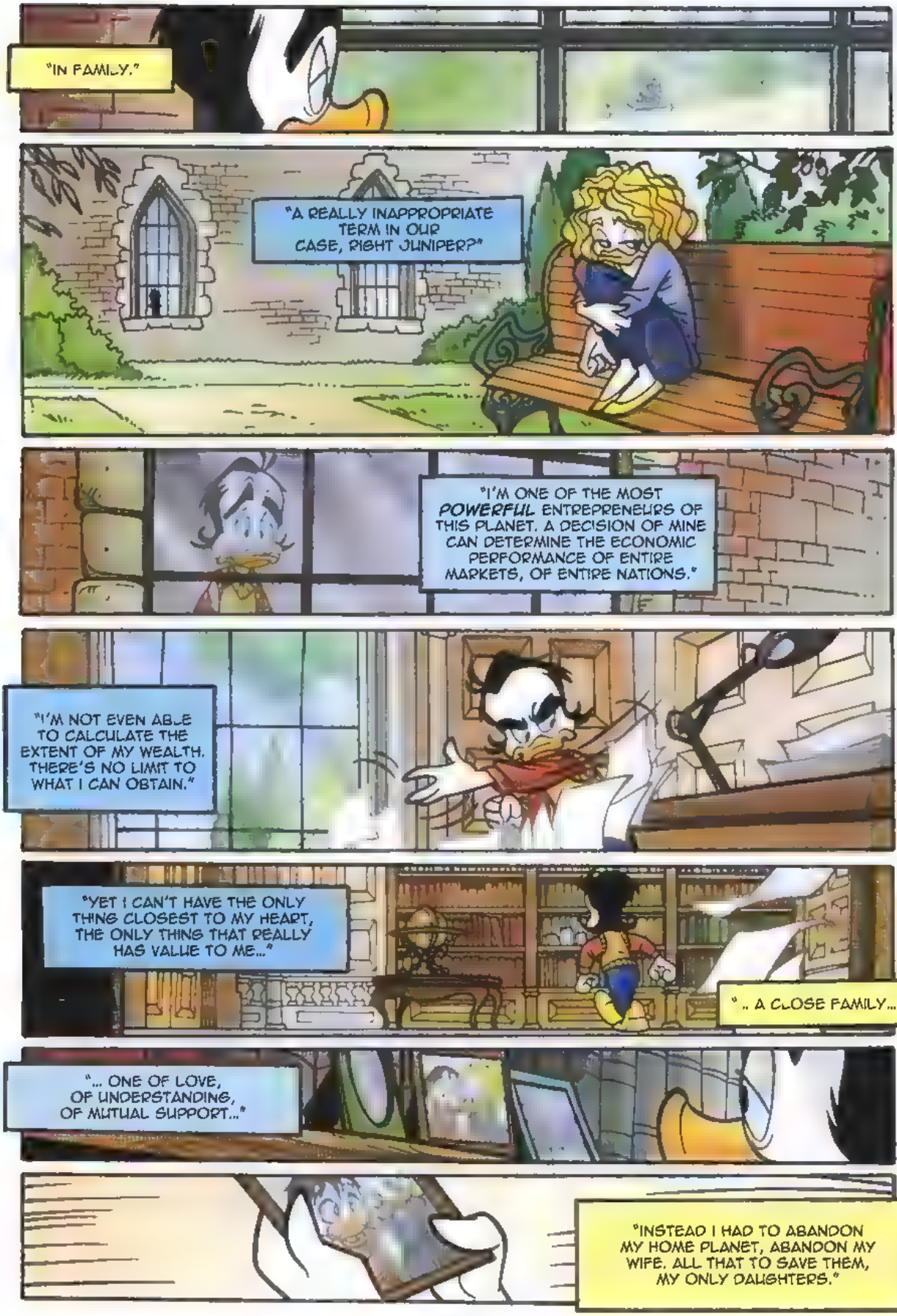

ANY QUESTIONS?
NO, EVERYTHING'S CLEAR, SIR.
YES, EVERYTHING'S *EXTREMELY* CLEAR.
I HAVE NOTHING MORE TO ADD, YOU CAN GO.


IN THEORY IT'S THE KIND OF TASK THAT SUITS YOUR CHARACTERISTICS, BIRGIT. IT WOULD BE EMBARRASSING IF YOU FAILED AGAIN...

WATCH OUT, ANYMORE! SOONER OR LATER YOU'RE GONNA GET HURT... *VERY HURT...*

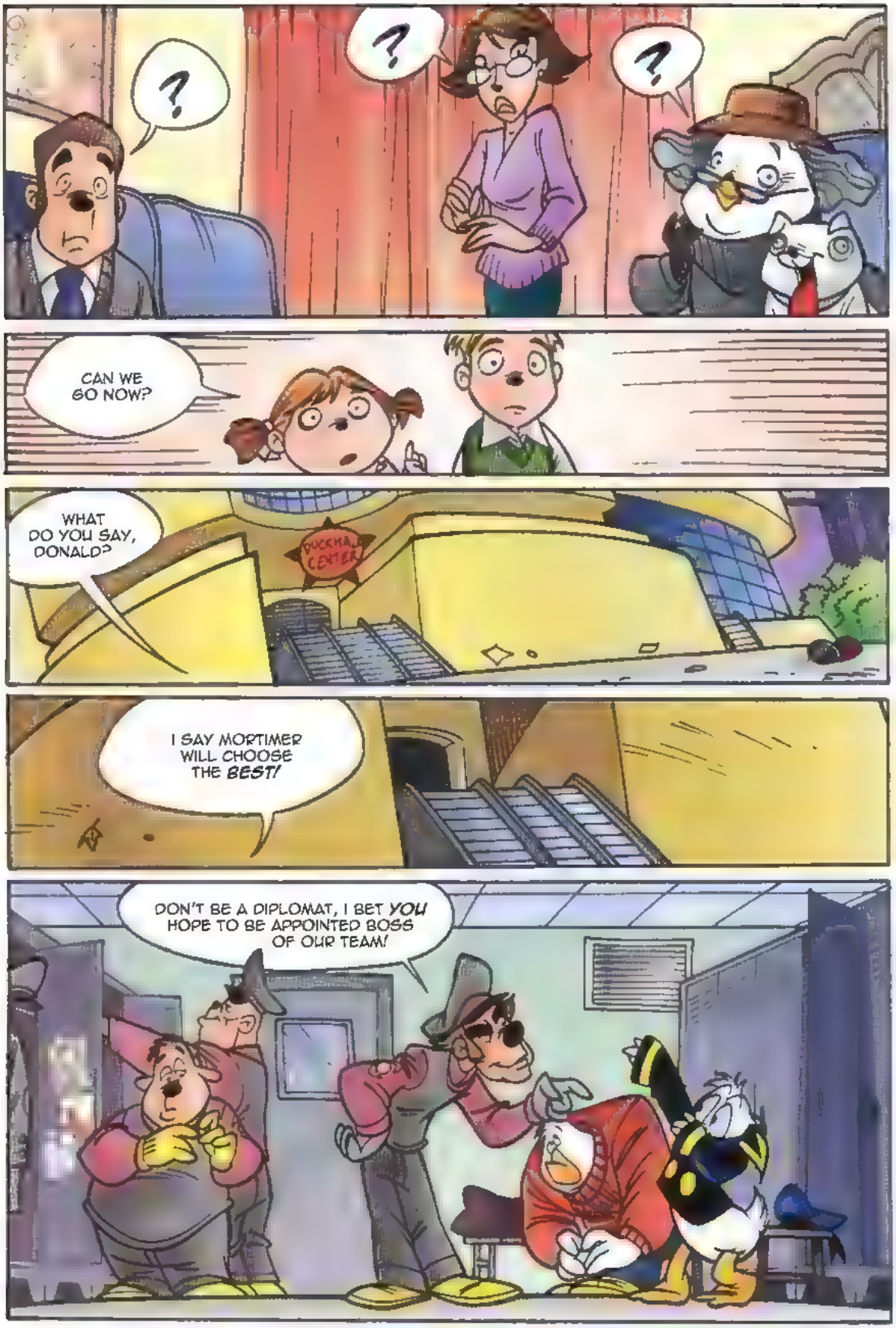

HOSTILITY. MISTRUST. HATE. I'M SURROUNDED BY IT EVERYWHERE.

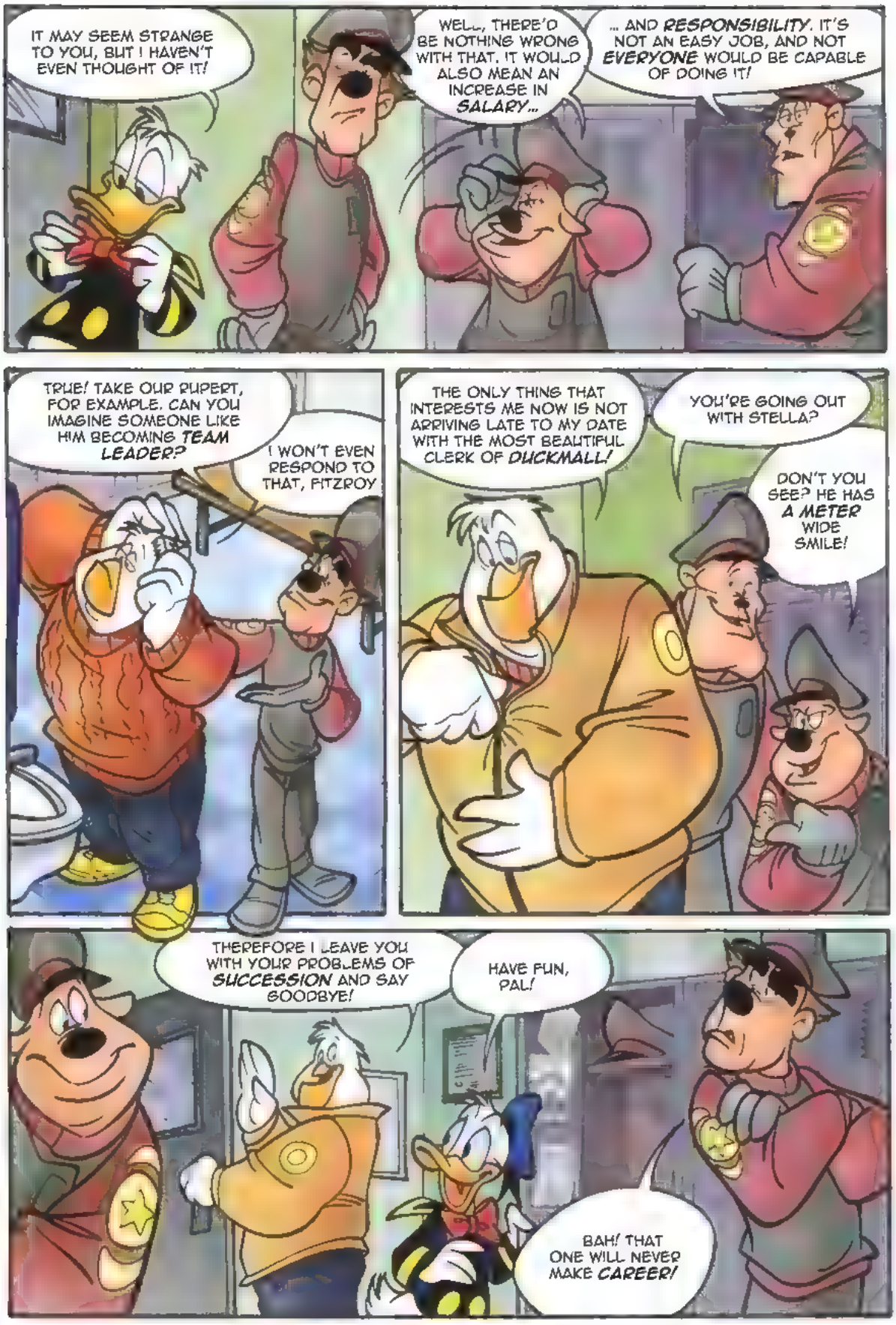
IN WORK.


"IN FAMILY."
"A REALLY INAPPROPRIATE TERM IN OUR CASE, RIGHT JUNIPER?"
"I'M ONE OF THE MOST *POWERFUL* ENTREPRENEURS OF THIS PLANET. A DECISION OF MINE CAN DETERMINE THE ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE OF ENTIRE MARKETS, OF ENTIRE NATIONS."
"I'M NOT EVEN ABLE TO CALCULATE THE EXTENT OF MY WEALTH. THERE'S NO LIMIT TO WHAT I CAN OBTAIN."
"YET I CAN'T HAVE THE ONLY THING CLOSEST TO MY HEART, THE ONLY THING THAT REALLY HAS VALUE TO ME..."
".. A CLOSE FAMILY..."
"... ONE OF LOVE, OF UNDERSTANDING, OF MUTUAL SUPPORT..."
"INSTEAD I HAD TO ABANDON MY HOME PLANET, ABANDON MY WIFE. ALL THAT TO SAVE THEM, MY ONLY DAUGHTERS."

"WITH THE RESULT THAT JUNIPER BARELY TALKS TO ME, DESPITE MY ATTEMPTS, AND KORINNA..."
"... I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE KORINNA IS."
"I JUST HOPE SHE'S ALRIGHT."
HMM...
DO YOU REMEMBER EXACTLY WHAT I'VE TOLD YOU?
OF COURSE!
WE UNDERSTOOD!
BE WARNED THAT I WATCH HOW YOU BEHAVE EVEN WHEN I DON'T SEE YOU.
AND YOUR TWO MASTERPIECES? WHERE ARE THEY?
YOU CAN GO NOW! WITHOUT RUNNING, NATURALLY.
SID... NANCY...

THERE THEY ARE!
BUT WHAT ELEGANCE!
THANKS TO JUDITH, THEIR NEW NANNY!
GOOD EVENING, MRS. DUCKLE-BERGOVA!
YOU'RE REALLY SPLENDOR!
ARF! ARF!
FUFFY IS ALSO HAPPY TO SEE YOU! HE CAN'T WAIT TO PLAY WITH YOU AGAIN!
SURE, KIDS.
ARF! ARF!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE! PLAY WITH FUFFY A LITTLE IN THE GARDEN!
WE CAN'T.
WHY CAN'T YOU?
WE SHOULDN'T WASTE TIME WITH USELESS THINGS LIKE ANIMALS!
YEAH, WE SHOULD ONLY THINK OF IMPORTANT THINGS!


?
?
?
CAN WE GO NOW?
WHAT DO YOU SAY, DONALD?
DUCKBURG CENTER
I SAY MORTIMER WILL CHOOSE THE BEST!
DON'T BE A DIPLOMAT, I BET YOU HOPE TO BE APPOINTED BOSS OF OUR TEAM!


IT MAY SEEM STRANGE TO YOU, BUT I HAVEN'T EVEN THOUGHT OF IT!
WELL, THERE'D BE NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT. IT WOULD ALSO MEAN AN INCREASE IN SALARY...
... AND RESPONSIBILITY. IT'S NOT AN EASY JOB, AND NOT EVERYONE WOULD BE CAPABLE OF DOING IT!
TRUE! TAKE OUR RUPERT, FOR EXAMPLE. CAN YOU IMAGINE SOMEONE LIKE HIM BECOMING TEAM LEADER?
I WON'T EVEN RESPOND TO THAT, FITZROY
THE ONLY THING THAT INTERESTS ME NOW IS NOT ARRIVING LATE TO MY DATE WITH THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CLERK OF DUCKMALL!
YOU'RE GOING OUT WITH STELLA?
DON'T YOU SEE? HE HAS A METER WIDE SMILE!
THEREFORE I LEAVE YOU WITH YOUR PROBLEMS OF SUCCESSION AND SAY GOODBYE!
HAVE FUN, PAL!
BAH! THAT ONE WILL NEVER MAKE CAREER!

YOU'LL SEE THAT MORTIMER WILL CHOOSE ME AS HIS SUCCESSOR!
AND WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT?
SIMPLE, I'M THE BEST!
HEY, IT'S TIME TO GO INTO ACTION!
EASY THERE, FITZROY. COME ON NOW, OUR SHIFT'S STARTING.
GOODBYE, BOYS. SEE YOU TOMORROW!
I HOPE LYO HAS FOUND THAT INFOR-MATION!
ANOTHER WHO WON'T MAKE CAREER!
A CARGO SHIP OF DUCKLAIR FLEET HAS JUST DOCKED AT PIER 19. THE DEVICE WE'RE LOOKING FOR IS IN CONTAINER 021, A TRANSPORT TEAM IS GOING TO PICK IT UP. THE DESTINATION IS DUCKLAIR UNIVERSE.
MAYBE WE GOT IT RIGHT ARE WE SURE OF THE INFORMATION?
OF COURSE! ASTRONSMAN'S ULTRAMODERN COMPUTER CAN'T BE WRONG!

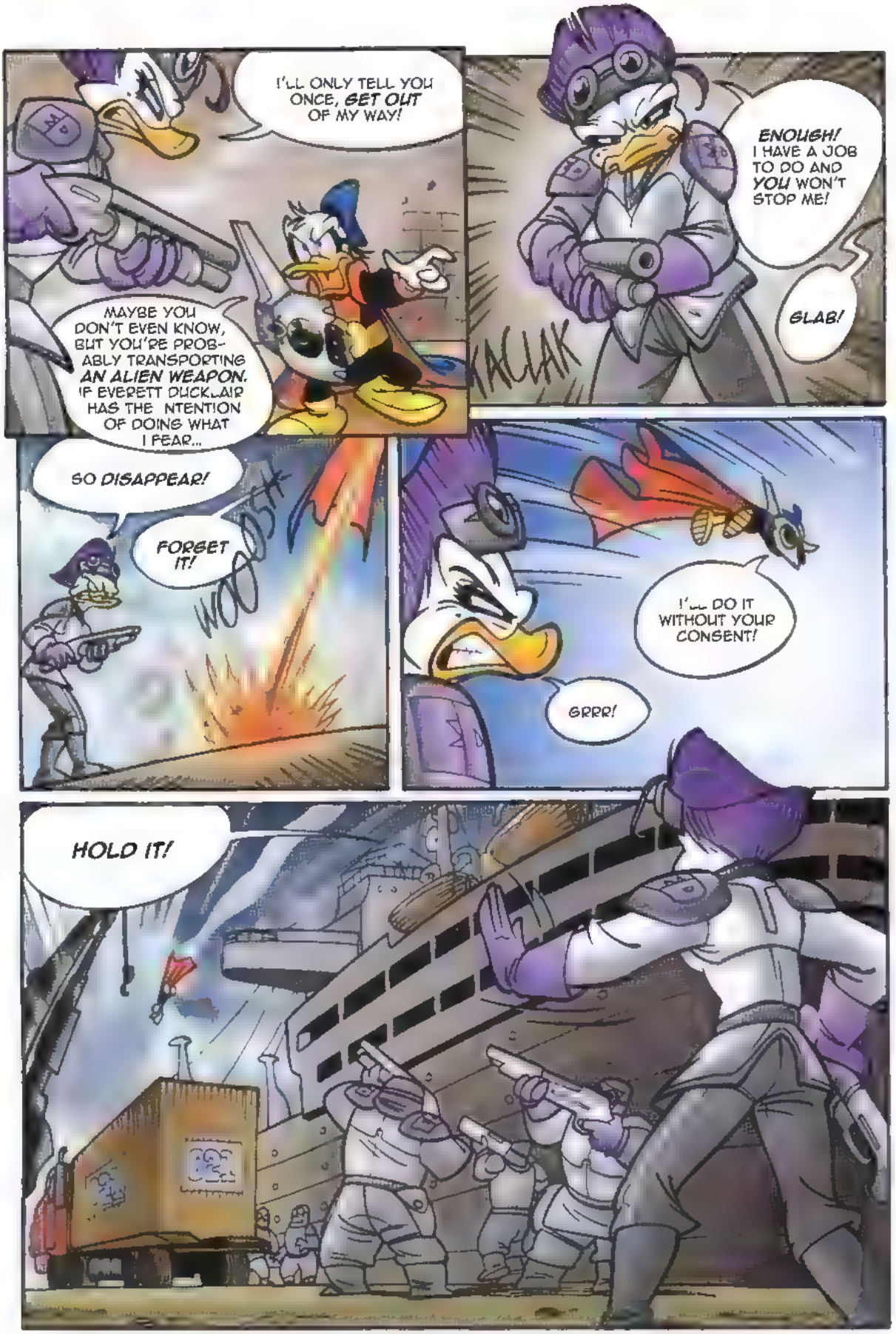
SORRY, LYO, BUT IS THIS COMPUTER *DIGITAL*? IS IT CONNECTED TO AN INFORMATION NETWORK? IS IT *MECHANICAL*?
NONE OF IT, WHY?
BUT THEN HOW CAN IT...
BAH, EXPLAIN IT TO ME ANOTHER TIME! I'M HEADING TO THE PORT.

APPARENTLY, DUCKLAIR REALLY CARES ABOUT THAT DEVICE.
HE'S EVEN SENT *BIRSIT Q* AND HER SECURITY SQUAD ON A WAR FOOTING TO PICK IT UP!
THEN MY SUSPICIONS WERE RIGHT, THIS IS SOMETHING VERY *IMPORTANT* AND PROBABLY ALSO *DANGEROUS!*
AND IT'S *IN THERE!*

I JUST HAVE TO CHOOSE WHAT TACTIC TO FOLLOW
SINCE I HAVEN'T BEEN SEEN, IT WOULD BE BEST TO TRY TO SURPRISE THEM BEFORE THEY GET TO THEIR DESTINATION..
VRRRR
GLAB!
SSSHHAAA
THE WAREHOUSE'S ANTITHEFT DROIDS!
SSSHHAAA
SSHHAAA
I WAS REALLY A GREEN-HORN TO NOT NOTICE YOU, BOYS!
BUT NOW THAT I CAN NO LONGER PASS UNNO-TICED..

BZZZ
BZZZ
... I MIGHT AS WELL RESPOND IN KIND!
WEEEEE
FZZUPP
KRAK
BZZ
SHHAA
THE AVENGER! WHAT DO WE DO? INTERVENE?
NO, FINISH PREPARING THE CARGO.
I'LL DEAL WITH HIM!
TA CLAK
WELL, BOYS, LET'S FINISH THIS! I HAVE MORE IMPORTANT MATTERS TO RESOLVE!
BESIDES, YOU'RE NOT FAST MONSTERS!
SHAAAA

SO THE OLD TRIPPING TRICK CAN ALSO WORK ON YOU!
BZZA!
OOOPS! WRONG MEASURES!
BAH! GOOD THING THERE'S NO ONE BELOW!
BLAM BLAM
EHEM... SHOULD HAVE STAYED UP THERE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, AVENGER? WANT SOMETHING FROM US?
ONLY TO TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR CARGO, BIRGIT. IT COULD BE VERY DANGEROUS!
BZZZZ


I'LL ONLY TELL YOU ONCE, GET OUT OF MY WAY!
MAYBE YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW, BUT YOU'RE PROBABLY TRANSPORTING AN ALIEN WEAPON. IF EVERETT DUCKLAIR HAS THE INTENTION OF DOING WHAT I FEAR...
ENOUGH! I HAVE A JOB TO DO AND YOU WON'T STOP ME!
KACLAK
GLAB!
SO DISAPPEAR!
FORGET IT!
WOOOSH
I'LL DO IT WITHOUT YOUR CONSENT!
GRRR!
HOLD IT!

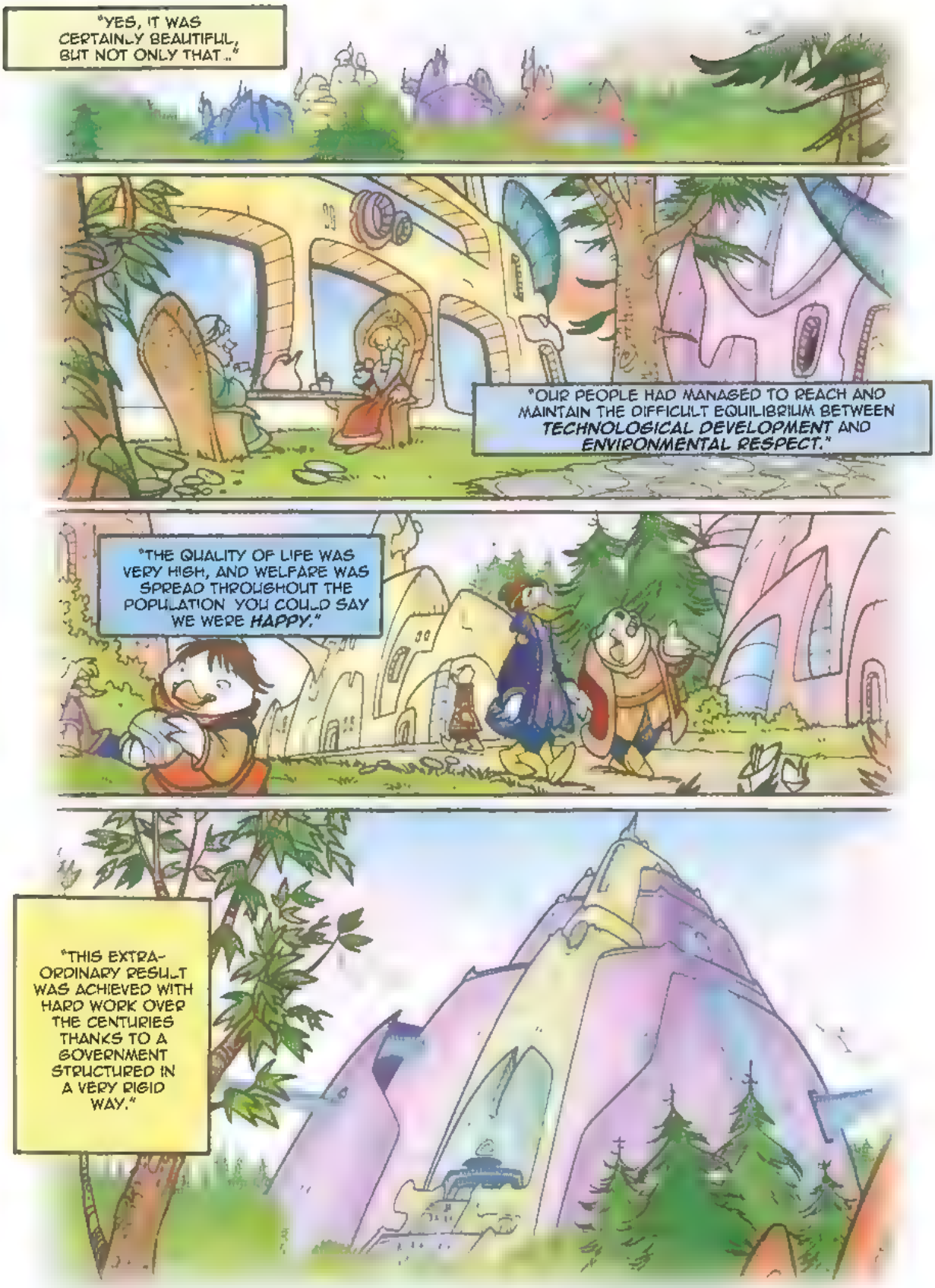
WITH HIM THE BLOB-BALL IS ENOUGH!
BEEP
?
FFFF FF
BUT
IT'S BRAND NEW, AN IDEA BY EVERETT, NATURALLY.
TODAY I HAVE NO LUCK WITH ANTITHEFT STUFF!
IT WILL KEEP YOU BUSY ENOUGH TO NOT BOTHER US FOR A GOOD WHILE! WAIT, I'LL TRIGGER THE ANTIGRAVITATIONAL OPTION.
YES, SO I'LL JUST HAVE YOU TAKE OFF!
ANTI... GRAVITATIONAL?
OH?

LIKE THIS!
TUDD
HEY!
JUST NEED TO FREE MYSELF AND..
TUDD TUDD
UGH! RATHER ROBUST, THIS THING!
FZZZZ
SSSHHHH
IT MAY BE ANTI-GRAVITATIONAL, BUT IT'S SINKING! LET'S JUST HOPE THAT...
BLUB! POPL! PPBL!

TOC
TOC

JUNIPER...
WE NEED TO TALK.
IT'S NOT... IT'S NOT THE TIME...
NO. THE TIME IS INSTEAD RIGHT *NOW*. I'M SICK OF *NEVER* BEING ABLE TO TALK TO YOU.
YOU CAN'T SAY YOU'VE DONE A LOT OF ATTEMPTS, DAD.
YOU'VE NEVER THOUGHT THAT IT MAY NOT BE EASY FOR ME TO ADDRESS CERTAIN ISSUES. ESPECIALLY IF I'VE ALWAYS FOUND A WALL ON THE OTHER SIDE
OKAY, THEN IT'S MY FAULT. HAPPY?
YOU AND YOUR SISTER HAVE HATED ME SINCE YOU ARRIVED ON THIS PLANET.
YEAH, AND YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND *WHY*, RIGHT?

YOU TOOK US AWAY FROM OUR HOME, YOU SEPARATED US FROM OUR MOTHER TO BRING US HERE, WHERE YOU MADE US GROW UP IN A MACHINE INSTEAD OF LETTING US LIVE. YOU'VE STOLEN ENTIRE YEARS!
WAIT...
IT MAY SEEM SO, I KNOW, BUT YOU DON'T KNOW WHY I DID IT. I WAS FORCED TO, DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
LET GO OFF ME!
I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO ALSO HAVE YOUR SISTER HERE, BUT SINCE IT'S NOT POSSIBLE I WANT AT LEAST YOU TO KNOW THE EVENTS THAT FORCED ME TO DO WHAT YOU ACCUSE ME SO MUCH OF.
LISTEN TO ME, JUNIPER, BECAUSE WHAT I'M ABOUT TO TELL YOU IS SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT FOR US, FOR OUR FAMILY.
REMEMBER SOMETHING ABOUT CORONA, OR HOME PLANET?
SURE! I WAS VERY SMALL, BUT I REMEMBER IT'S A BEAUTIFUL PLACE..

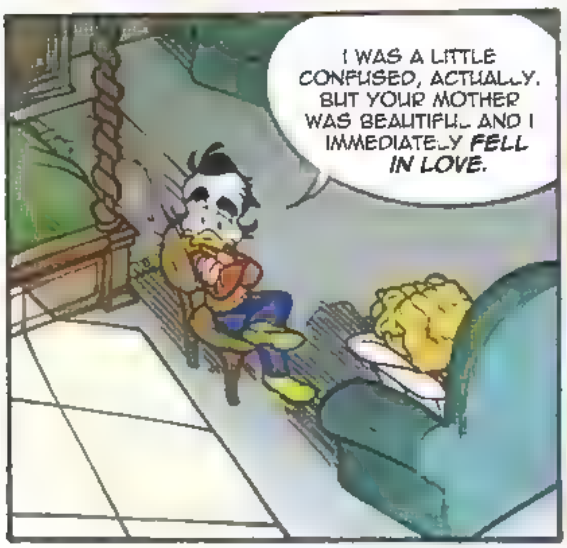

"YES, IT WAS CERTAINLY BEAUTIFUL, BUT NOT ONLY THAT..."
"OUR PEOPLE HAD MANAGED TO REACH AND MAINTAIN THE DIFFICULT EQUILIBRIUM BETWEEN *TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT* AND *ENVIRONMENTAL RESPECT*."
"THE QUALITY OF LIFE WAS VERY HIGH, AND WELFARE WAS SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE POPULATION. YOU COULD SAY WE WERE *HAPPY*."
"THIS EXTRA-ORDINARY RESULT WAS ACHIEVED WITH HARD WORK OVER THE CENTURIES THANKS TO A GOVERNMENT STRUCTURED IN A VERY RIGID WAY."

"AT THE HEAD THERE WAS A *QUEEN* WHO HAD THE LAST AND DECISIVE WORD ON EVERY LAW."
"THE QUEEN WAS ELECTED BY A *PARLIAMENT* COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES OF EACH CITY-STATE OF CORONA, IN TURN ELECTED BY EVERY CITIZEN OF THE PLANET. THERE WAS HOWEVER ONE PARTICULARITY, ALL MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT, FROM LOWEST TO HIGHEST RANK..."
"... OBLIGATORILY HAD TO BE OF THE *FEMALE SEX*. THE MEN WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MANAGEMENT OF POWER."
THERE WAS A NATURAL REASON FOR IT. THE INHABITANTS OF CORONA HAVE *MENTAL POWERS*, BUT THAT OF THE WOMEN ARE MUCH *SUPERIOR* THAN THAT OF THE MEN. THIS GAVE THEM THE POSSIBILITY TO BETTER CONTROL THEIR FEELINGS, THEIR EMOTIONS...
AND SO?

AND SO THEY COULD MORE EASILY MAKE DECISIONS FOR THE COMMON GOOD, FORGETTING THE SUFFERING OF INDIVIDUALS, EVEN IF THEY WERE FAMILY, EVEN IF IT WERE THEMSELVES...
"NATURALLY TO REACH THOSE LEVELS OF SELF-CONTROL THEY HAD TO BE TRAINED VERY HARD TO BE ELECTED TO PARLIAMENT. THERE WAS AN INSTITUTION CREATED FOR THIS PURPOSE."
"IT WAS JUST OUTSIDE WHERE I MET YOUR MOTHER FOR THE FIRST TIME..."
AAAAAH!
?
DON'T MOVE!
HMM!
GOTCHA!
FZZZ

MAY I KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON?
OH, SORRY, I JUST CAUGHT A SPECIMEN OF DZIRSENIA PROPULSIVA! IT HAD JUST LANDED ON YOUR SHOULDER!
HERE IT IS! IT'S A VERY INTERESTING INSECT TO STUDY. IT'S NOT YET CLEAR WHAT TECHNIQUE IT USES TO FLY!
YOU DON'T SAY!
I'M EVERETT DUCKLAIR, AERONAUTICAL SCIENTIST, AND I BET YOU'RE A NEW MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT WHO'S FOLLOWING THE COURSE OF EMOTIONAL SELF-CONTROL!
HOW PERSPECTIVE!
YOU WERE IN FACT NOT STARTLED! LET'S SEE IF YOU KNOW HOW TO WITHSTAND THE GAME OF WHO LAUGHS FIRST. KNOW THAT I'M UNBEATABLE!
BLEAH!

MFFF!
HA HA! YOU LOST! WHAT DID I TELL YOU?
YES, BUT MAKING FACES ISN'T FAIR!
AND WHO SAID THAT?
YOU CHEATED!
ALRIGHT, I'LL TRY TO APOLOGIZE. WHAT DO YOU SAY ABOUT AN ICED DJUFANGO SHAKE?
MY NAME'S SERIFA.
I'M ZARDOZ. I'M AN AERONAUTICAL SCIENTIST.
YOU ALREADY TOLD ME.
OH, YEAH. AND HOW COME YOU'RE IN THESE PARTS?
ATTENDING A COURSE...
YES, HOW SILLY OF ME.. AND YOU COME HERE OFTEN?


I WAS A LITTLE CONFUSED, ACTUALLY. BUT YOUR MOTHER WAS BEAUTIFUL AND I IMMEDIATELY FELL IN LOVE.

BUT ABOVE ALL I FELT THAT UNDER THE SKIN OF COLDNESS THERE WAS A LIVING HEART, FULL OF FEELINGS.
WE STARTED SEEING EACH OTHER AND SOON BECAME LOVERS.

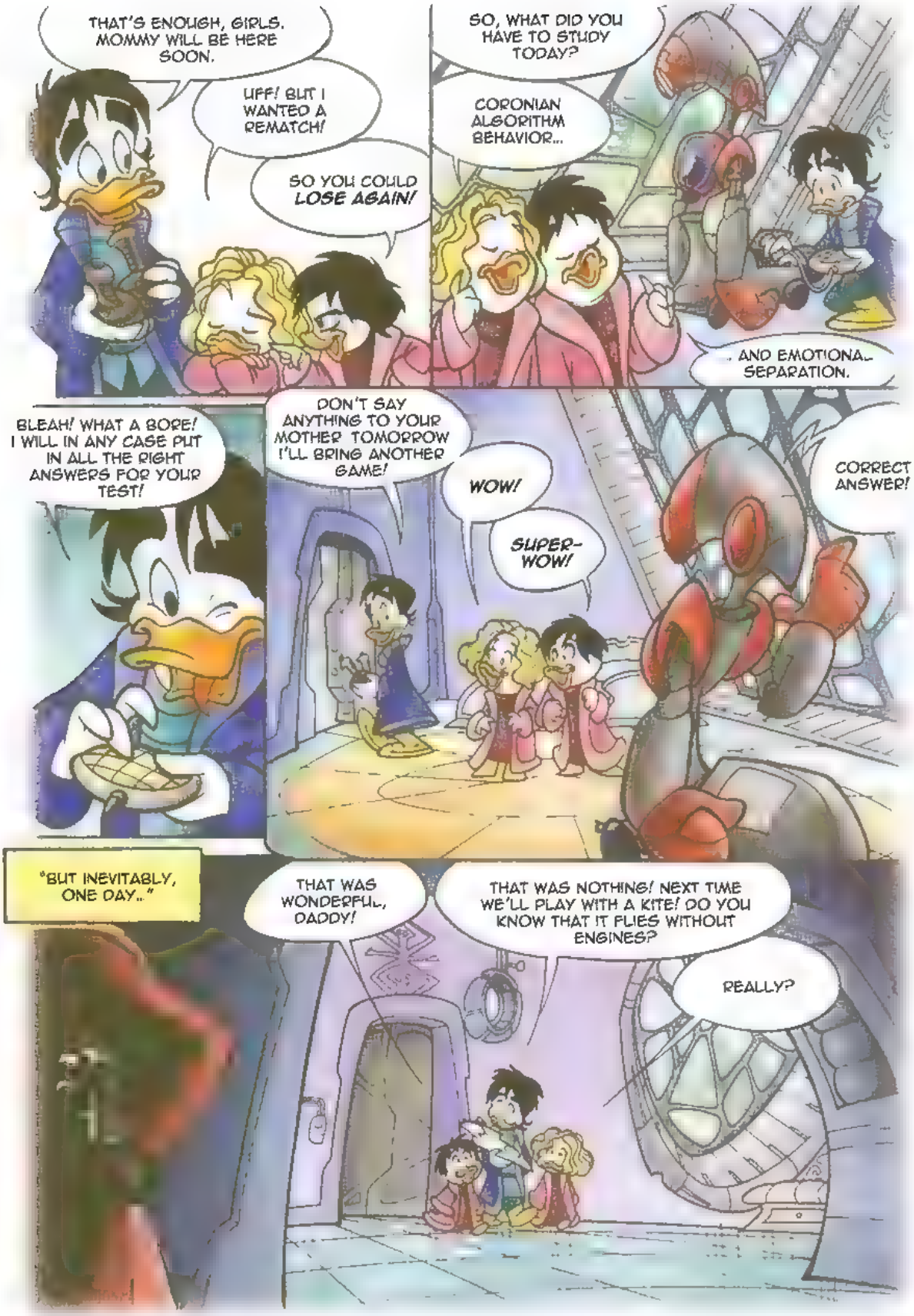
"MEANWHILE I CONTINUED MY WORK AS SCIENTIST. I BECAME RESPONSIBLE FOR THE AERONAUTICAL RESEARCH SECTOR."
"SERIFA, HAVING COMPLETED THE COURSE, SUCCESSFULLY STARTED HER PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITY."
"BUT WITH ME SHE WAS ANYTHING BUT COLD AND SELF-CONTROLLED. WE HAD A WONDERFUL TIME TOGETHER. I WAS SURE I HAD FOUND THE PERFECT PARTNER FOR MY LIFE. I WAS HAPPY."
"BUT ONE DAY SOMETHING REALLY UNEXPECTED HAPPENED. IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT QUEEN ARTANA V HAD SECRETLY CREATED A FAMILY..."
THE QUEEN COULDN'T HAVE A HUSBAND, NOR CHILDREN. SUCH AFFECTIONS COULD DISTRACT FROM THE RESPONSIBILITY OF COMMAND
ARTANA V DIDN'T FULLY HAVE EMOTIONAL CONTROL, HER SEAT REQUIRED DENIAL OF FEELINGS
THE SCANDAL WAS KEPT HIDDEN, ARTANA V HAD TO RESIGN AND THE PARLIAMENT NATURALLY DECIDED TO IMMEDIATELY ELECT A NEW QUEEN.

"ALL PARLIAMENT MEMBERS WERE HOPING TO BE ELECTED, AS WELL AS YOUR MOTHER, ALTHOUGH I HOPED SHE WOULDN'T BE."
HEY, WHAT A SERIOUS EXPRESSION! WHAT HAPPENED?
CAN'T YOU GUESS?
YOU MEAN THAT YOU WEREN'T ELECTED?
EXACTLY!
YEAH! WHAT LUCK.
THANKS A LOT!
"I WAS DELIGHTED, NATURALLY. I HAD PLANS FOR US."
COME! LET'S GO CELEBRATE!
SGRUNT!
"IN FACT, THAT NIGHT..."
MAYBE YOU COULD HAVE BEEN A GOOD QUEEN, BUT I PREFER THAT YOU BECOME A GOOD MOTHER, SERIFA!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
I'M ASKING YOU TO MARRY ME! WHAT DO YOU SAY, DO YOU ACCEPT?
BUT, YES! OF COURSE!

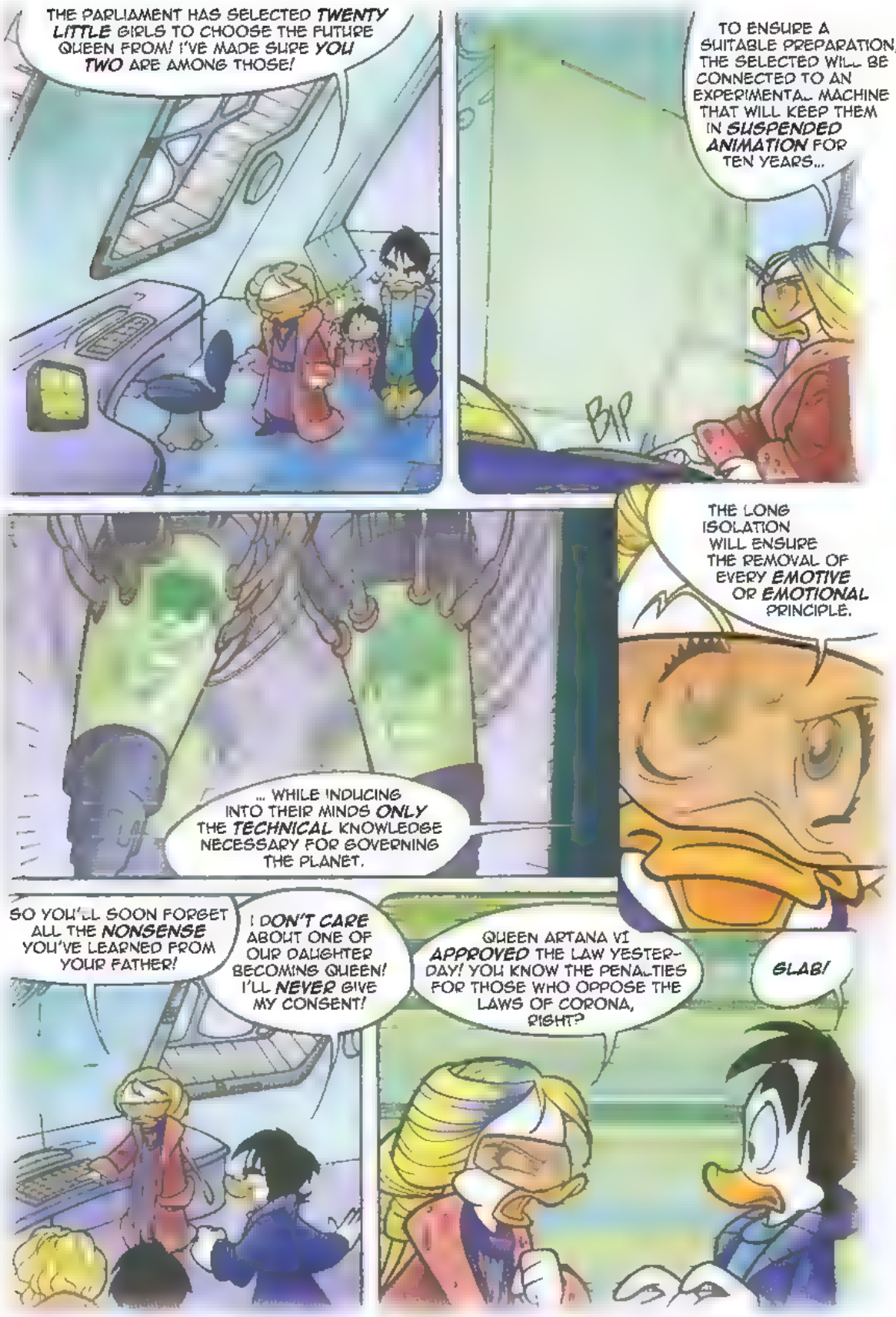
OH, EVERETT! THANK YOU SO MUCH! I'M SORRY IF I ONLY THOUGHT ABOUT ME!
"WE GOT MARRIED AND BOUGHT A NICE HOUSE.."
WELL, NOW YOU'LL ALSO HAVE TO THINK ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE.
"THEN THE TWO OF YOU WERE BORN! YOU WERE CORONA'S MOST BEAUTIFUL LITTLE GIRLS."
YUK!
YUK! YUK!
"BUT A FEW YEARS LATER THE PROBLEMS STARTED."
LOOK, GIRLS, A SLOG! LET'S GIVE IT SOMETHING TO EAT!
HOW PRETTY!
IT LOVES SMERKEL SEEDS, IT CAN EAT UP TO 15 BILK A DAY!
WHAT A CUTIE!
WHY DON'T WE BRING IT HOME?

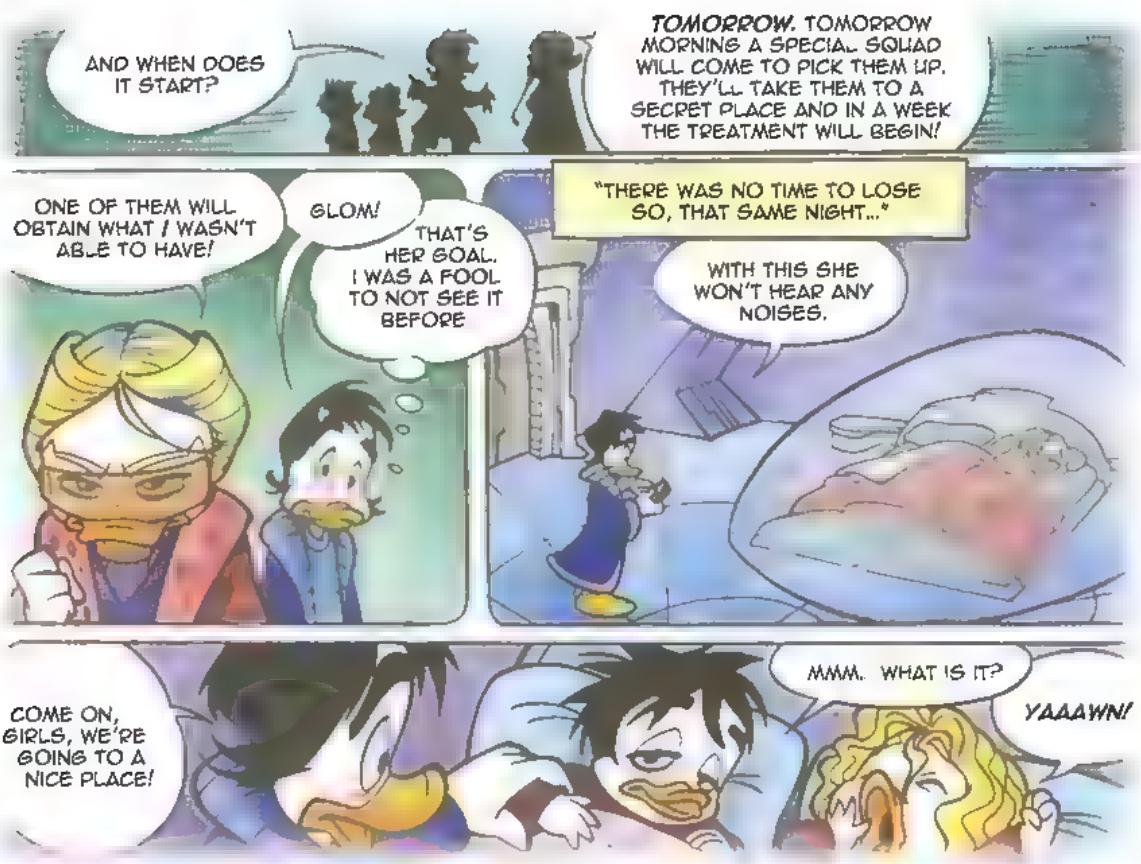
MOMMY, LOOK AT THE PRETTY SLOG WE FOUND! CAN WE KEEP IT?
EH?
COME ON, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!
PUT THAT ANIMAL BACK WHERE YOU FOUND IT AND GO STUDY! NOW!
UGH!
HYPERUGH!
YOU KEEP DISTRACTING OUR DAUGHTERS WITH NONSENSE! IN THE FUTURE THEY'LL BE PART OF CORONA'S GOVERNMENT AND ONLY HAVE TO PAY ATTENTION TO IMPORTANT THINGS!
BUT LOVING ANIMALS IS AN IMPORTANT THING.
CONGRATULATIONS! THEY'LL GET USED TO DEVELOP DEEP FEELINGS, WHICH IS EXACTLY WHAT THEY SHOULDN'T DO!
SHOULDN'T DO?
OF COURSE! THE PARLIAMENT HAS DECIDED THAT FUTURE MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE TO BE EDUCATED MORE SEVERELY THAN IN THE PAST!
CORONA CAN'T AFFORD TO LET ANOTHER SCANDAL LIKE THAT OF ARTANA V TO HAPPEN!
AND WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH KORINNA AND JUNIPER?

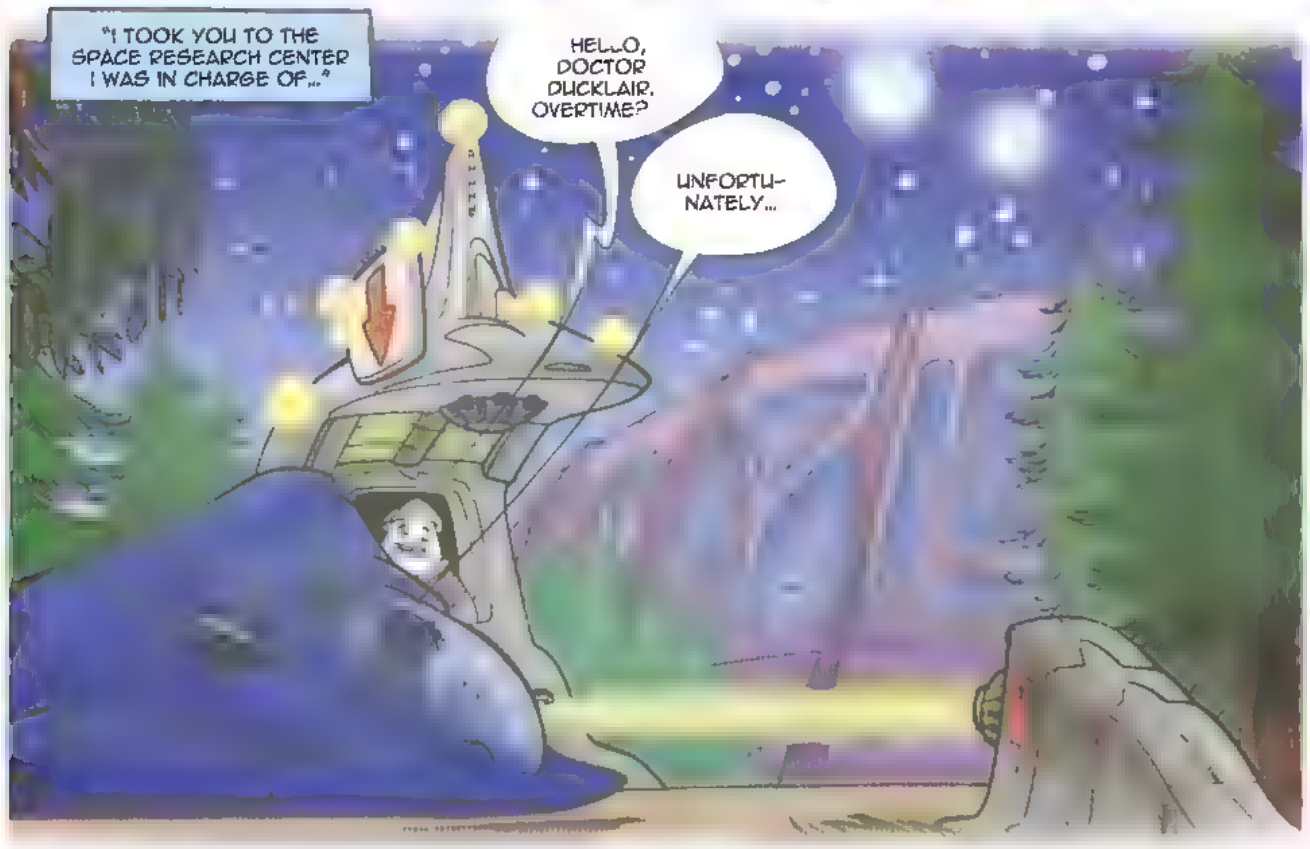
I WANT ONE OF OUR DAUGHTERS TO ONE DAY BECOME QUEEN. SO I'VE DECIDED THAT THEY'LL LIVE ISOLATED FROM THEIR CONTEMPORARIES AND WILL BE EDUCATED HERE, UNDER MY SUPERVISION!
GLAB!
"AND IN FACT, SHORTLY AFTER .."
HERE YOU GO, GIRLS!
?
?
FROM NOW ON THIS WILL BE YOUR TUTOR! FOLLOW THE LESSONS WELL AND DO EVERYTHING IT SAYS! TONIGHT I'LL COME TO CHECK WHAT YOU'VE DONE!
ARE YOU SURE THAT...
I'M VERY SURE!
LESSON NUMBER ONE.
BLEAH!
"NATURALLY I WAS AGAINST IT, AND AS SOON AS THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTED ITSELF .."
TAKE THAT!
MISSED!
LOOK OUT FOR THE SUPERFIST, JUNIPER!
NOW I GOT YOU!


THAT'S ENOUGH, GIRLS. MOMMY WILL BE HERE SOON.
UFF! BUT I WANTED A REMATCH!
SO YOU COULD LOSE AGAIN!
SO, WHAT DID YOU HAVE TO STUDY TODAY?
CORONIAN ALGORITHM BEHAVIOR...
... AND EMOTIONAL SEPARATION.
BLEAH! WHAT A BORE! I WILL IN ANY CASE PUT IN ALL THE RIGHT ANSWERS FOR YOUR TEST!
DON'T SAY ANYTHING TO YOUR MOTHER TOMORROW I'LL BRING ANOTHER GAME!
WOW!
SUPER-WOW!
CORRECT ANSWER!
"BUT INEVITABLY, ONE DAY.."
THAT WAS WONDERFUL, DADDY!
THAT WAS NOTHING! NEXT TIME WE'LL PLAY WITH A KITE! DO YOU KNOW THAT IT FLIES WITHOUT ENGINES?
REALLY?

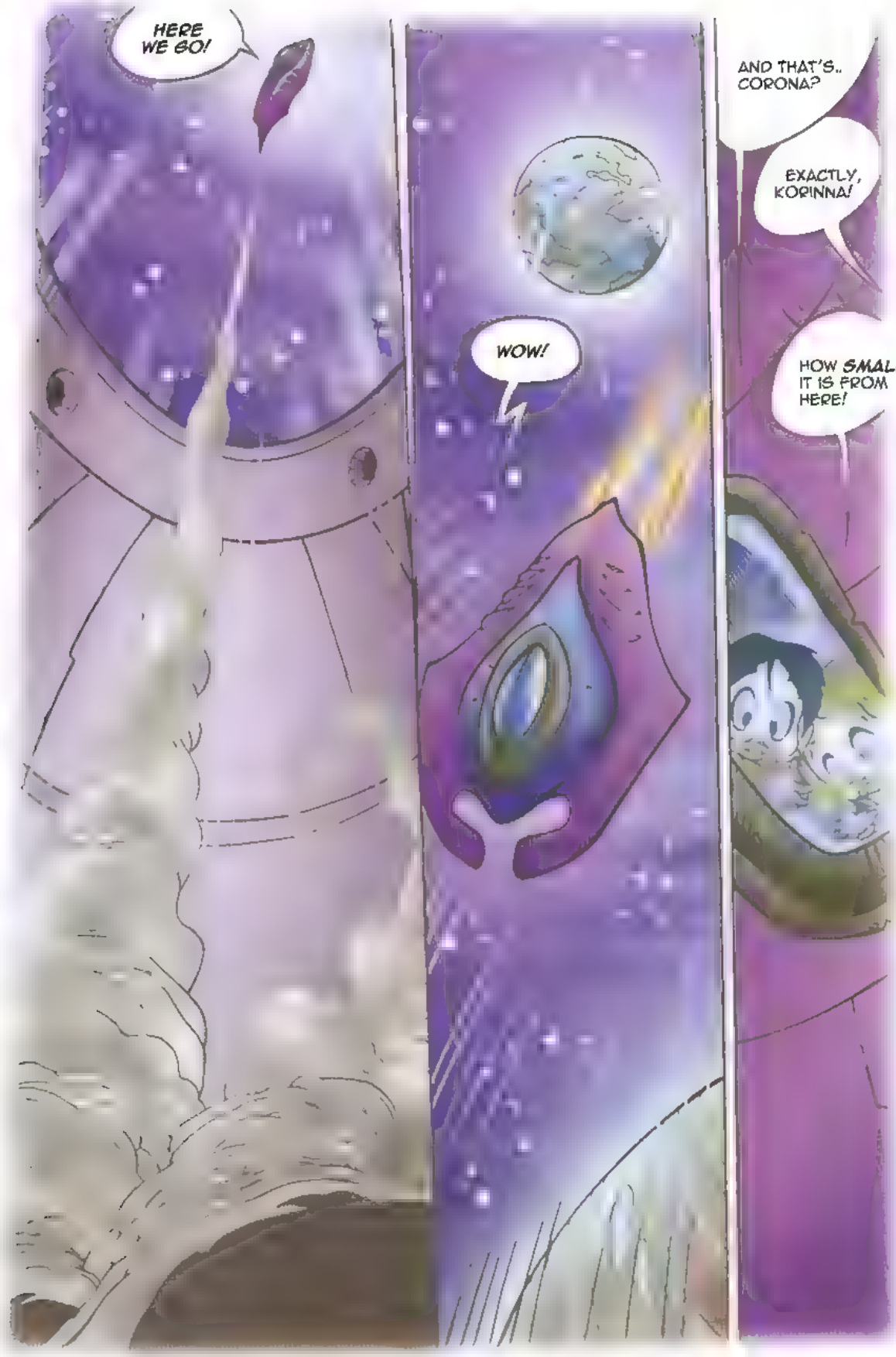
THIS IS WHAT YOU'VE DONE ALL DAY INSTEAD OF STUDYING! ALRIGHT! I'LL DEAL WITH YOU LATER!
GLAB!
GULP!
!
LEAVE THE GIRLS ALONE! IT'S MY FAULT!
OF COURSE IT'S YOUR FAULT! AND WHO KNOWS HOW LONG THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON!
I DON'T LIKE THAT OUR DAUGHTERS' EDUCATION DEPENDS ON A MACHINE!
ABOUT THAT...
DO YOU MIND PUTTING IT BACK IN PLACE?
I THINK IT'S MORE USEFUL LIKE THAT.
CORRECT ANSWER!
THIS STORY WILL HOWEVER END VERY SOON! FOLLOW ME EVERYONE!

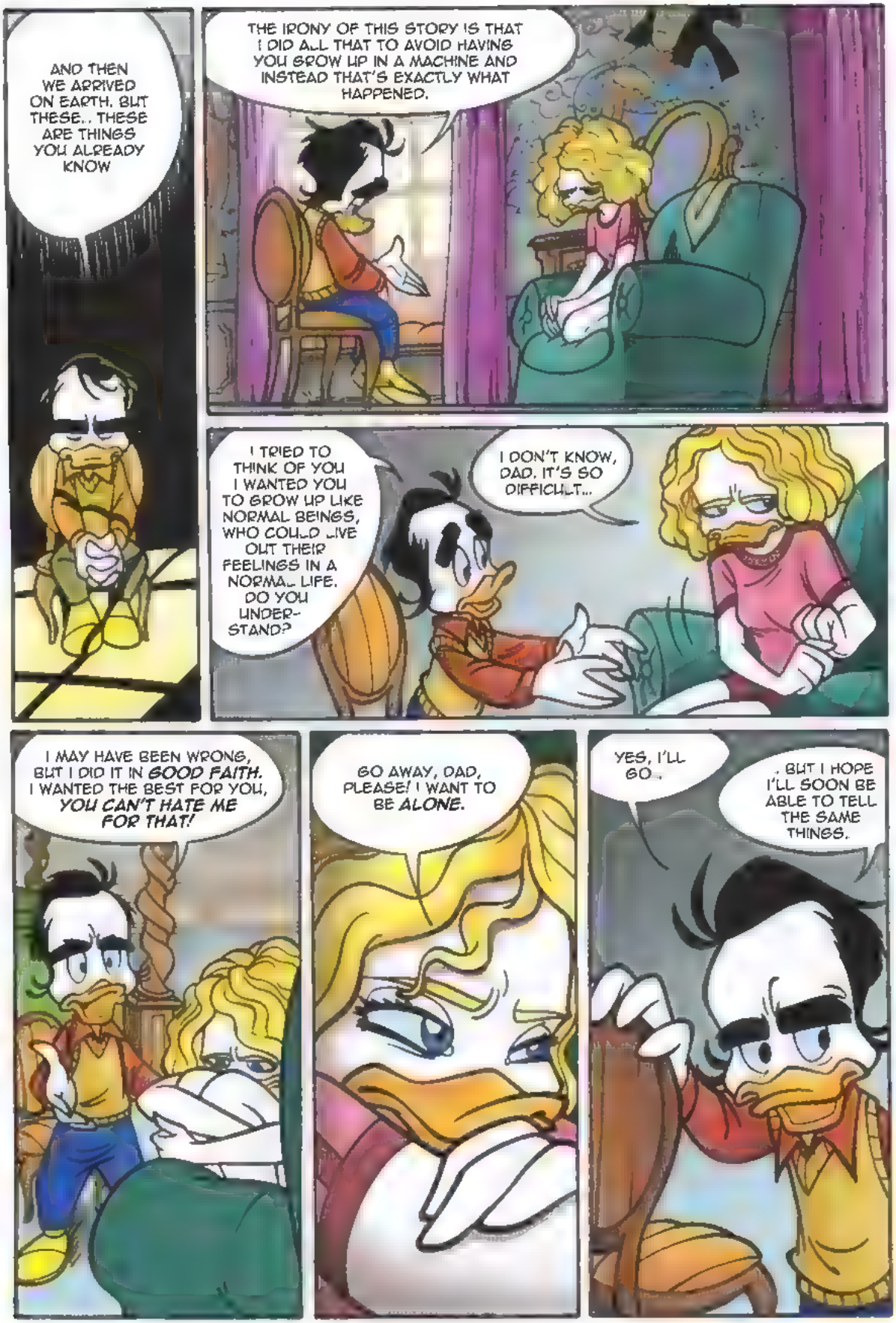

THE PARLIAMENT HAS SELECTED TWENTY LITTLE GIRLS TO CHOOSE THE FUTURE QUEEN FROM! I'VE MADE SURE YOU TWO ARE AMONG THOSE!
TO ENSURE A SUITABLE PREPARATION, THE SELECTED WILL BE CONNECTED TO AN EXPERIMENTAL MACHINE THAT WILL KEEP THEM IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION FOR TEN YEARS...
BIP
THE LONG ISOLATION WILL ENSURE THE REMOVAL OF EVERY EMOTIVE OR EMOTIONAL PRINCIPLE.
... WHILE INDUCING INTO THEIR MINDS ONLY THE TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE NECESSARY FOR GOVERNING THE PLANET.
SO YOU'LL SOON FORGET ALL THE NONSENSE YOU'VE LEARNED FROM YOUR FATHER!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT ONE OF OUR DAUGHTER BECOMING QUEEN! I'LL NEVER GIVE MY CONSENT!
QUEEN ARTANA VI APPROVED THE LAW YESTERDAY! YOU KNOW THE PENALTIES FOR THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE LAWS OF CORONA, RIGHT?
GLAB!

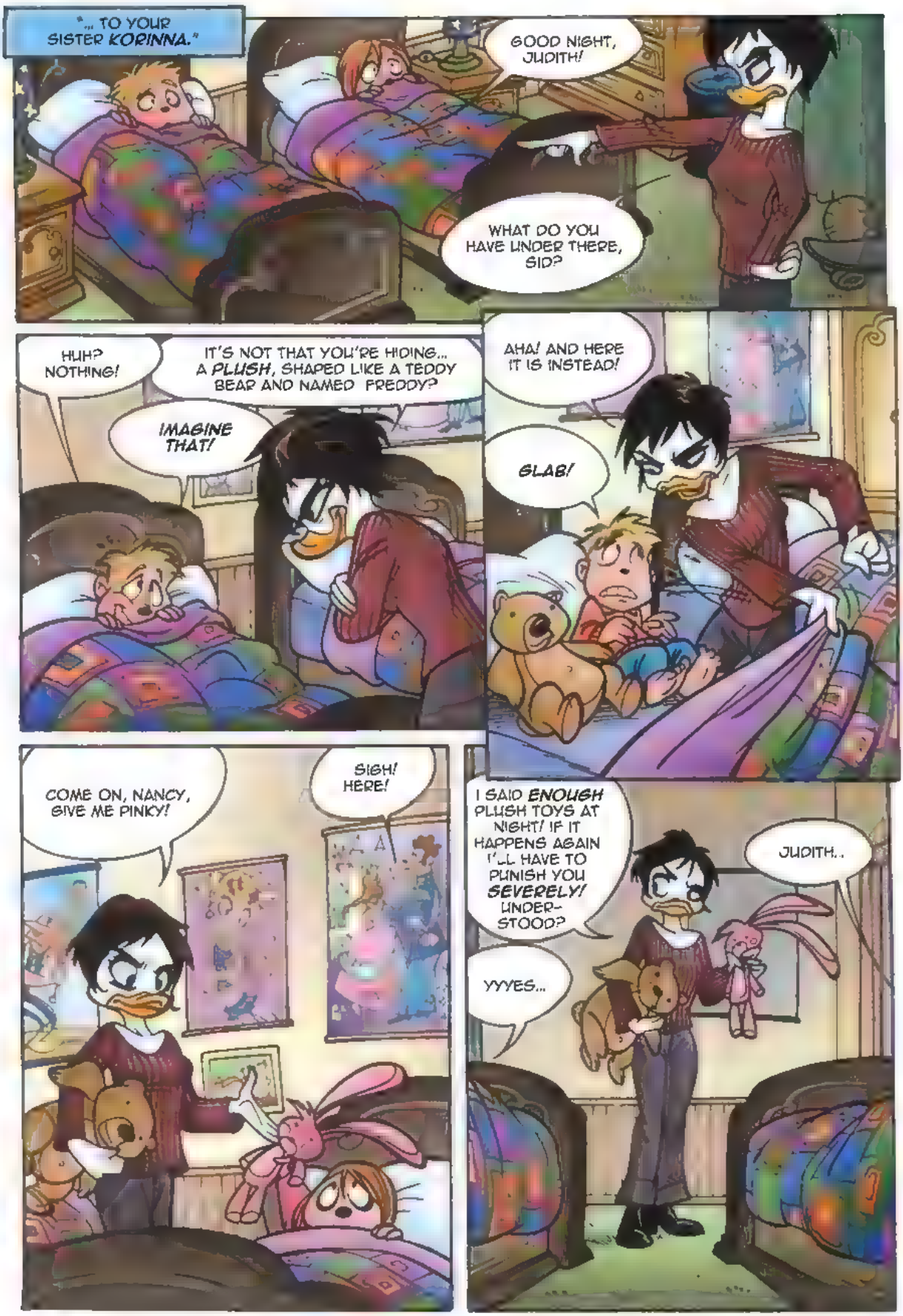

AND WHEN DOES IT START?
TOMORROW. TOMORROW MORNING A SPECIAL SQUAD WILL COME TO PICK THEM UP. THEY'LL TAKE THEM TO A SECRET PLACE AND IN A WEEK THE TREATMENT WILL BEGIN!
ONE OF THEM WILL OBTAIN WHAT I WASN'T ABLE TO HAVE!
GLOM!
THAT'S HER GOAL. I WAS A FOOL TO NOT SEE IT BEFORE
"THERE WAS NO TIME TO LOSE SO, THAT SAME NIGHT..."
WITH THIS SHE WON'T HEAR ANY NOISES.
COME ON, GIRLS, WE'RE GOING TO A NICE PLACE!
MMM. WHAT IS IT?
YAAAWN!


"I TOOK YOU TO THE SPACE RESEARCH CENTER I WAS IN CHARGE OF..."
HELLO, DOCTOR DUCKLAIR. OVERTIME?
UNFORTU-NATELY...

OKAY, YOU CAN GO OUT!
THIS IS NICE!
IS IT A PLAYGROUND?
IN A WAY YES!
"I WAS DEVELOPING A PROTOTYPE OF AN INTERGALACTIC SPACESHIP. IT HAD NOT YET BEEN TESTED, BUT THERE WAS NO MORE TIME."
WOO HOOO!
COME ON, YOU TWO, WE'RE GOING FOR A RIDE!
"AS PLANET OF DESTINATION I HAD CHOSEN ONE WITH THE MOST SIMILAR BIO-ATMOSPHERIC CHARACTERISTICS TO CORONA IN THE CLOSEST GALAXY.."
READY!
READY?

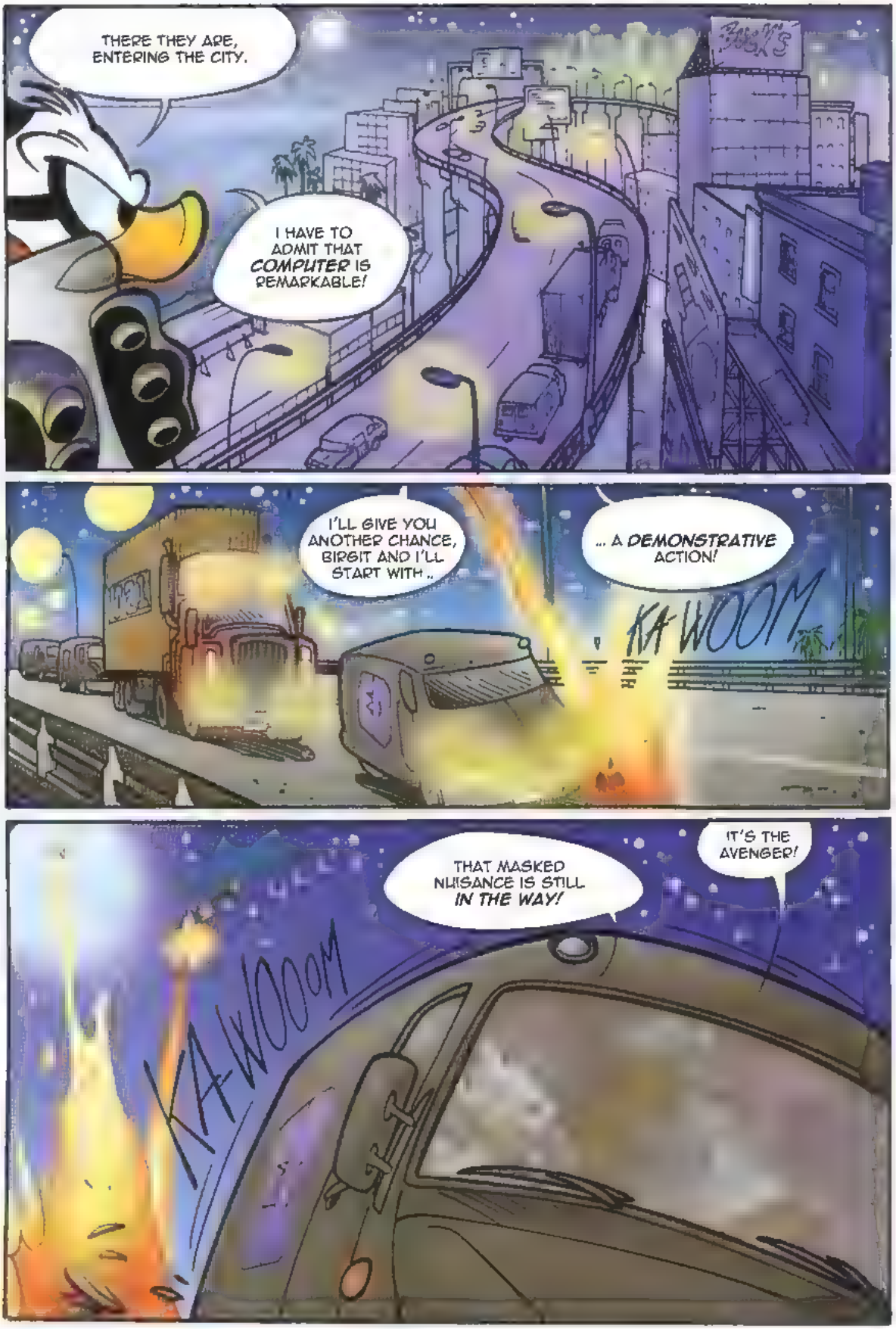

HERE WE GO!
WOW!
AND THAT'S.. CORONA?
EXACTLY, KORINNA!
HOW SMALL IT IS FROM HERE!


AND THEN WE ARRIVED ON EARTH. BUT THESE.. THESE ARE THINGS YOU ALREADY KNOW
THE IRONY OF THIS STORY IS THAT I DID ALL THAT TO AVOID HAVING YOU GROW UP IN A MACHINE AND INSTEAD THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED.
I TRIED TO THINK OF YOU I WANTED YOU TO GROW UP LIKE NORMAL BEINGS, WHO COULD LIVE OUT THEIR FEELINGS IN A NORMAL LIFE. DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
I DON'T KNOW, DAD. IT'S SO DIFFICULT...
I MAY HAVE BEEN WRONG, BUT I DID IT IN GOOD FAITH. I WANTED THE BEST FOR YOU, YOU CAN'T HATE ME FOR THAT!
GO AWAY, DAD, PLEASE! I WANT TO BE ALONE.
YES, I'LL GO...
...BUT I HOPE I'LL SOON BE ABLE TO TELL THE SAME THINGS.

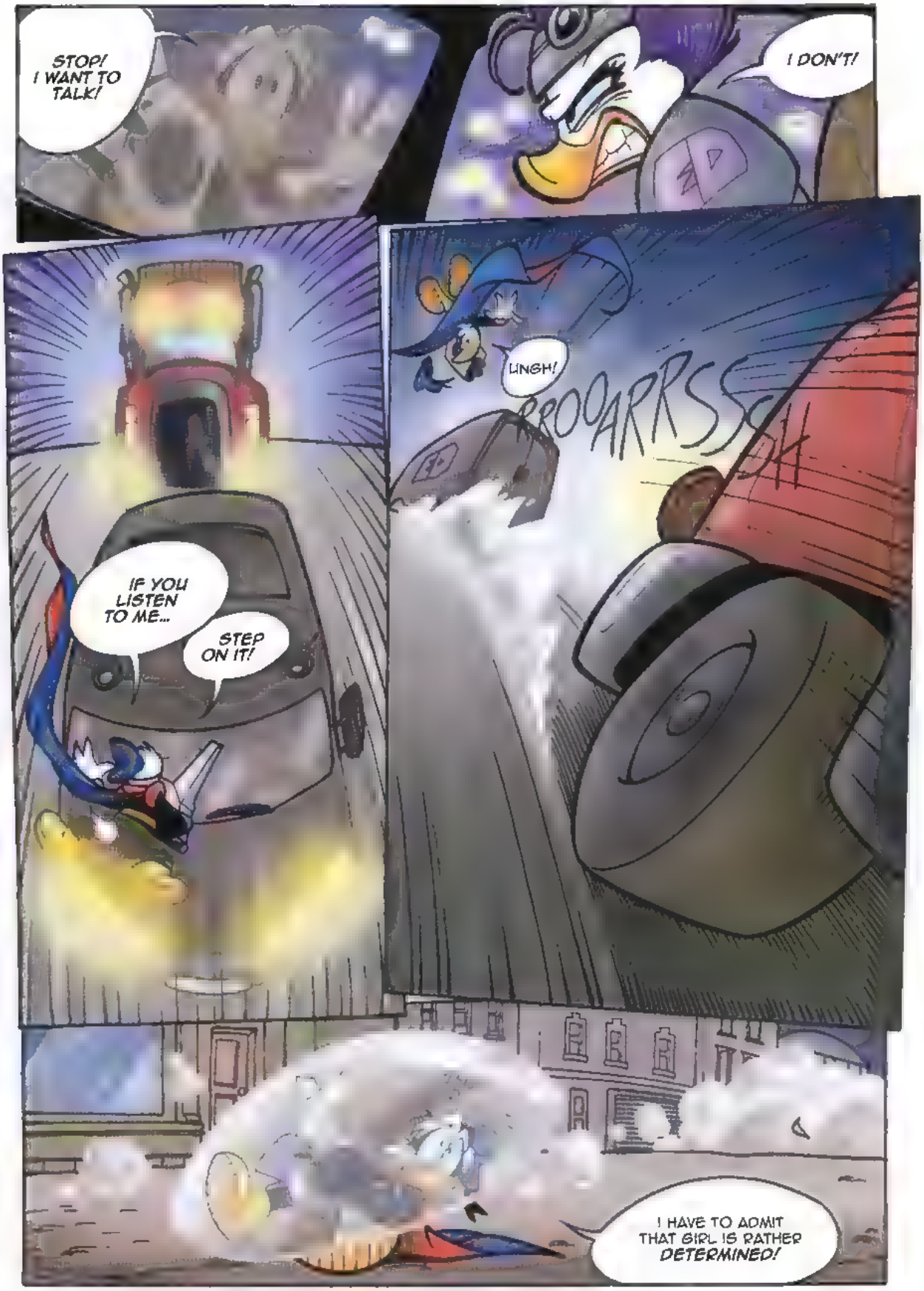

"... TO YOUR SISTER KORINNA."
GOOD NIGHT, JUDITH!
WHAT DO YOU HAVE UNDER THERE, SID?
HUH? NOTHING!
IT'S NOT THAT YOU'RE HIDING... A PLUSH, SHAPED LIKE A TEDDY BEAR AND NAMED FREDDY?
IMAGINE THAT!
AHA! AND HERE IT IS INSTEAD!
GLAB!
COME ON, NANCY, GIVE ME PINKY!
SIGH! HERE!
I SAID ENOUGH PLUSH TOYS AT NIGHT! IF IT HAPPENS AGAIN I'LL HAVE TO PUNISH YOU SEVERELY! UNDER-STOOD?
YYYES...
JUDITH..

.. CAN WE KEEP THE LIGHT ON AT LEAST FOR A LITTLE BIT?
NO. YOU'LL SLEEP WITH THE LIGHT ..
... OFF!
TLIK
KIDS...
TLIK
DAD, WE'RE A LITTLE SCARED.. CAN WE SLEEP WITH THE LIGHT ON?
OF COURSE YOU CAN.
JUDITH SAYS WE MUST TURN IT OFF AND SHE DOESN'T EVEN WANT US TO KEEP FREDDY AND PINKY!
I'LL TALK TO HER TOMORROW, DON'T WORRY. NOW TRY TO SLEEP.

17
BLU BLU BLU BLU
SGRUNT! THAT THING WAS REALLY RESISTANT!
IT TOOK ME A GOOD DOSE OF ALPHASONIC RAYS TO PIERCE IT!
SPLOSH
BAH, I JUST HOPE THAT BIRGIT AND HER CARGO AREN'T TOO FAR AWAY!
ACCORDING TO LYO THEY'RE HEADING TO DUCKLAIR UNIVERSE! LET'S TRY THAT DIRECTION!


THERE THEY ARE, ENTERING THE CITY.
I HAVE TO ADMIT THAT COMPUTER IS REMARKABLE!
I'LL GIVE YOU ANOTHER CHANCE, BIRGIT AND I'LL START WITH ..
... A DEMONSTRATIVE ACTION!
KA WOOM
THAT MASKED NUISANCE IS STILL IN THE WAY!
IT'S THE AVENGER!
KA-WOOM

DON'T THINK YOU CAN GET RID OF ME SO EASILY!
IF I COULDN'T DO IT BEFORE..
... I'LL DO IT NOW!
SHOOT!
TA-CLAK
GASP!
KA-WOOM
BLAM BLAM
WHAT WAYS!
KA-WOOM
WAIT, BIRGIT..
BRAKA
BRAKA
BRAKA


STOP! I WANT TO TALK!
I DON'T!
UNGH!
BROOARRSSSH
IF YOU LISTEN TO ME...
STEP ON IT!
I HAVE TO ADMIT THAT GIRL IS RATHER DETERMINED!

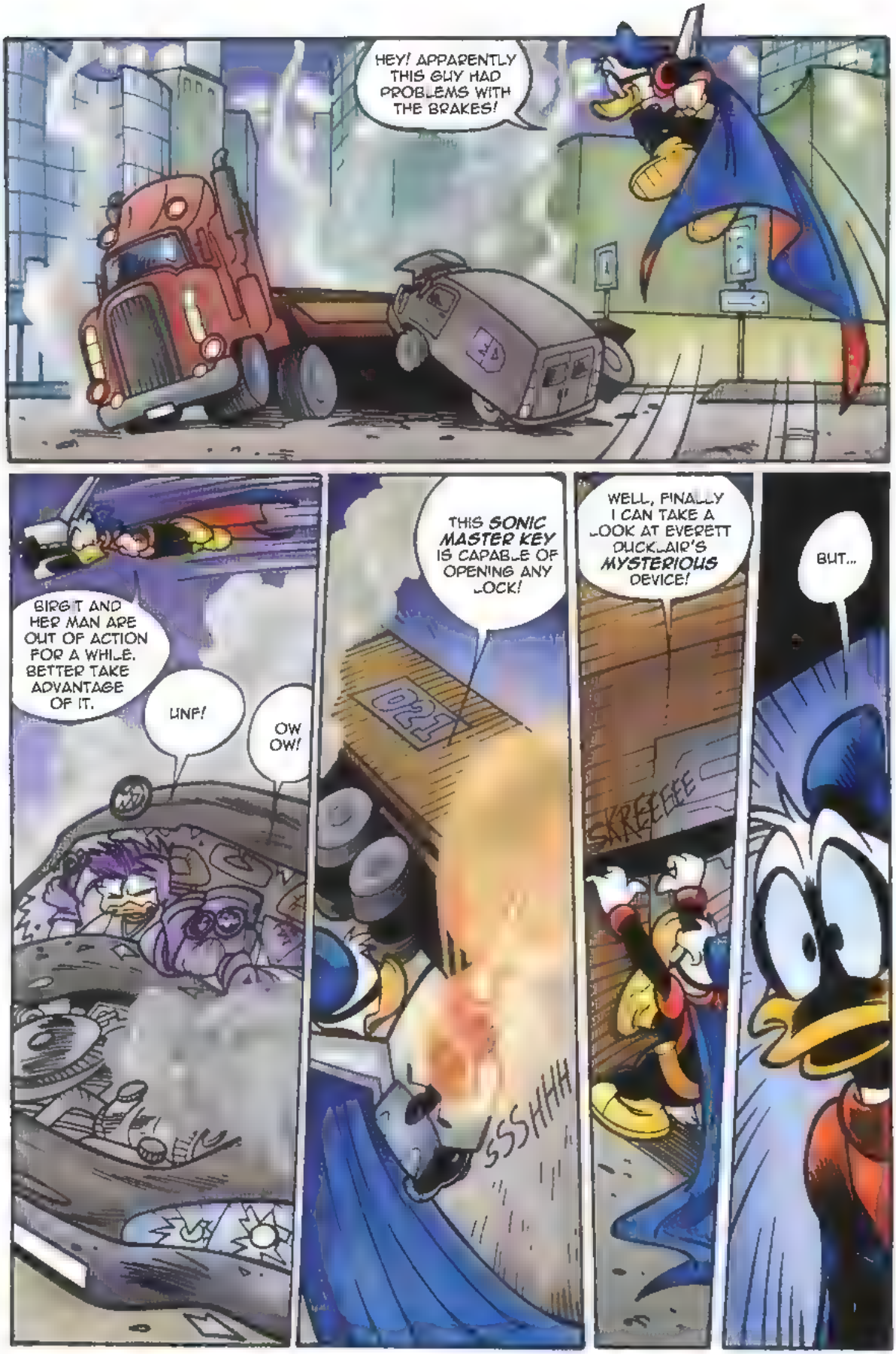
... AND SINCE THERE'S SEVERAL OF YOU, I SHOULD DO SOME SKIMMING...
... STARTING FROM THE BACK!
KA-WOOOM
BRAKA
BRAKA
ENOUGH WITH THE PLEASAN-TRIES...
SKREEEEE
THAT SHOULD CALM YOU DOWN FOR A WHILE!
BRAKA
BRAKA
BRAKA
BRAKA
BRAKA
RELAX, THERE'S SOME FOR YOU TOO!

AND NOW..
... LET'S SEE IF THAT GIRL CHANGES HER MIND!
STOP, BIRGIT! LET ME SEE WHAT YOU'RE TRANSPORTING! I WON'T REPEAT IT AGAIN!
BRAKA
BRAKA
FORGET IT!
KA-WOOOM
BAH, THIS SITUATION HAS BEEN GOING ON TOO LONG! TIME FOR THE GRAVITATIONAL COMMUTATOR AT REVERSE POLARITY!
FZZZZ
WE'RE SLOWING DOWN ALL OF A SUDDEN! IT'S AS IF WE HAD BECOME VERY HEAVY!
WHAT IS IT NOW?

THE TRUCK'S COMING AT US!
DUCK
SKREEEE
IT'S CLOSING IN! WE'RE GONNA GET STUCK!
THIS SHOULD UNDO THAT BUFFOON'S RAY!
IT WORKS!
TOO MUCH!
CKMALL
ROOOAAARR
YAAAWN! THESE NIGHT SHIFTS ARE SO BORING. NOTHING EVER HAPPENS!
GOOD THING FATSO'S THE ONE MAKING ALL THE PATROLS!
BUT...
ROOAAR

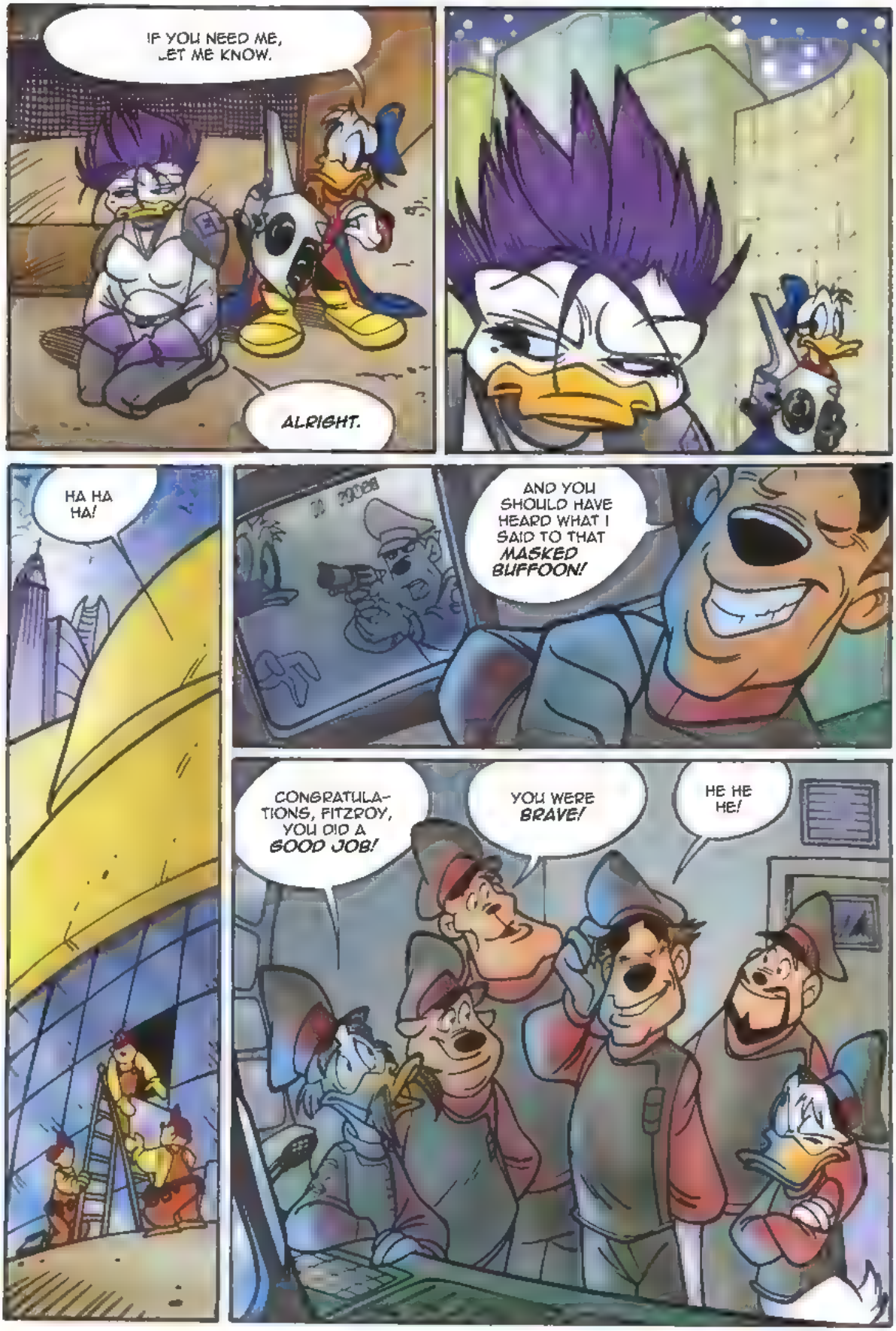
SKRRASSHAK
UNGH!
WHAT A BLOW!
SBONK
STOP THEM!
SKREEEEEE
BRAKA BRAKA
BLOCK THOSE TWO!
EH?

GET OUT OF HERE!
LET'S GET IT OVER WITH!
ROOOAAARR
HMPF!
THANKS A LOT FOR THE HELP, FRIEND!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S THE MASKED AVENGER! YOU DO THE HEROIC ACTIONS! IN FACT, I SUGGEST..
.. YOU GET OUT OF HERE!
?!
KRASSH


HEY! APPARENTLY THIS GUY HAD PROBLEMS WITH THE BRAKES!
BIRGIT AND HER MAN ARE OUT OF ACTION FOR A WHILE. BETTER TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT.
UNF!
OW OW!
THIS SONIC MASTER KEY IS CAPABLE OF OPENING ANY LOCK!
SSSHHH
WELL, FINALLY I CAN TAKE A LOOK AT EVERETT DUCKLAIR'S MYSTERIOUS DEVICE!
SKREEEEE
BUT...

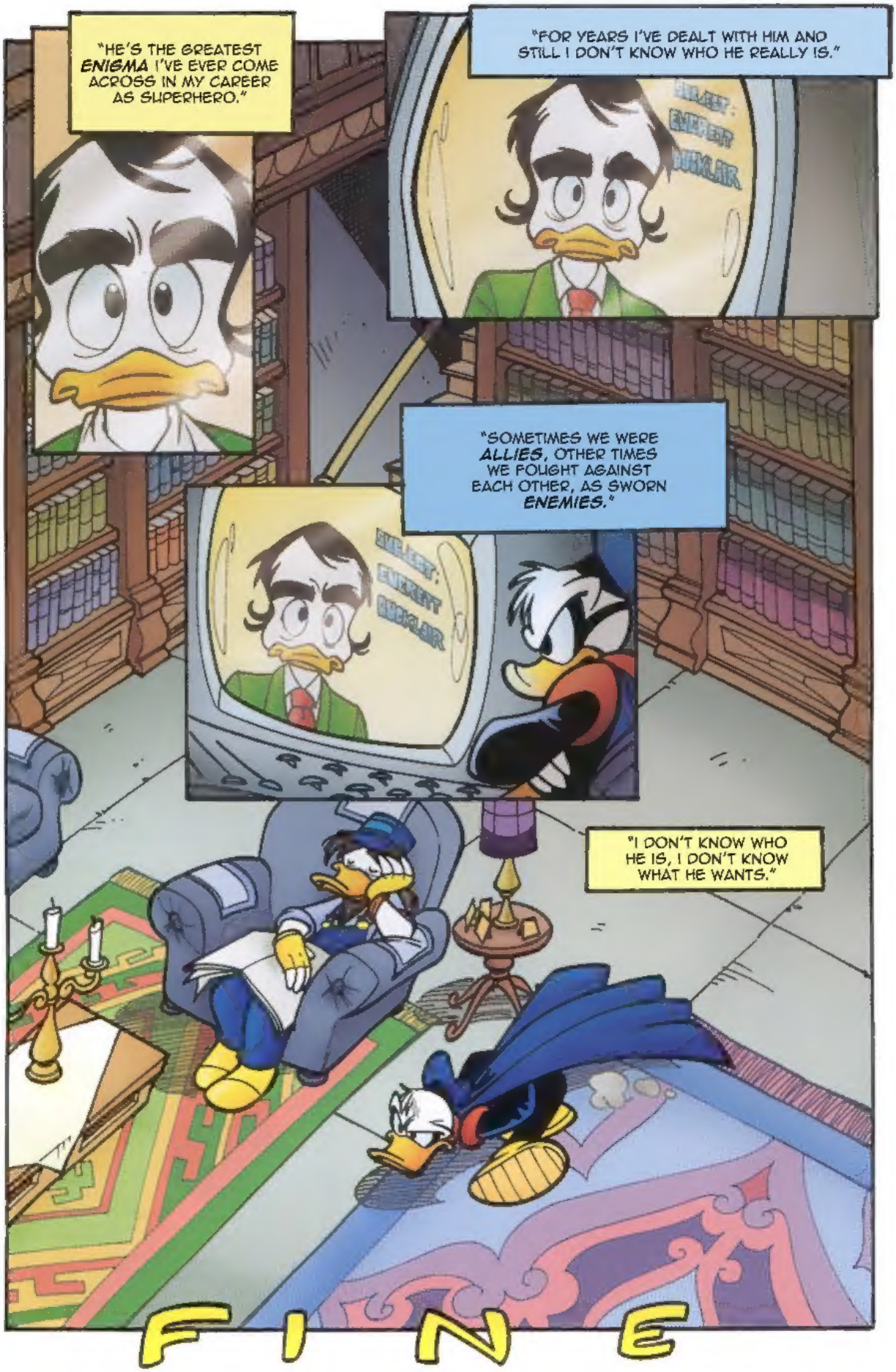
... IT'S EMPTY!
YA-CLAK
HANDS OFF, DUCK AVENGER...
GLAB!
... THAT STUFF ISN'T YOURS!
WHAT .. THIS?
DO YOU ALWAYS SO FIERCELY DEFEND EMPTY CONTAINERS YOU'RE TRANSPORTING, BIRGIT?
GASP!
NOOO!
STUNK
HEY!

MAY I KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON?
I DON'T KNOW. REALLY... I DON'T KNOW.
DID EVERETT TELL YOU WHAT YOU SHOULD HAVE TRANSP-ORTED?
NO, WE HAD TO BRING THE CONTAINER TO DUCKLAIR UNIVERSE FOLLOWING THE PROCE-DURES OF MAXIMUM SECURITY. SEEMED LIKE SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT...
I DON'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA OF WHAT HE WANTS TO DO. TO ME HE'S A STRANGER.
TELL ME ABOUT IT!
.. AND INSTEAD THERE WAS NOTHING!
LISTEN, BIRGIT, I NEED YOUR HELP TO UNDERSTAND ONCE AND FOR ALL WHAT EVERETT DUCKLAIR HAS IN MIND. YOU'VE WORKED FOR HIM FOR A LONG TIME.
TO HIM I'M JUST AN EXECUTRIX OF HIS ORDERS, AND AS YOU CAN SEE, HE HAS NO CONFIDENCE IN ME. HE MADE A FOOL OUT OF ME, HE ALWAYS HAS.
CAN I COUNT ON YOU TO TRY TO FIND OUT SOMETHING ABOUT HIM?
I DON'T KNOW, NOW I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ANYMORE. PLEASE, BEGONE NOW.


IF YOU NEED ME, LET ME KNOW.
ALRIGHT.
HA HA HA!
AND YOU SHOULD HAVE HEARD WHAT I SAID TO THAT MASKED BUFFOON!
CONGRATULATIONS, FITZROY, YOU DID A GOOD JOB!
YOU WERE BRAVE!
HE HE HE!

YOU PROMPTLY ACTED TO DEFEND DUCKMALL AND ALSO GAVE IT TO THAT AVENGING OUTLAW!
SGRUNT!
AFTER THAT TREATMENT HE GOT, HE'LL NO LONGER HAVE THE COURAGE TO COME AGAIN TO THESE PARTS!
BUFF-OON!
I'M GLAD THAT STARCORP CAN COUNT ON PERSONNEL AS GOOD AS YOU, FITZROY!
HE HE HE!
AND NOW, THOSE WHOSE SHIFTS BEGIN SHOULD GET TO WORK!
NICE ONE, PAL! I THINK YOU'LL TRULY REPLACE OLD BLOOM!
TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I? I'M THE BEST!
BAH, I HAVE OTHER THINGS TO THINK ABOUT!
ROMAN'S
OPTICA

I HOPE I'V BEEN CLEAR, JUDITH... IT'S JUST THAT I DON'T AGREE WITH YOUR EDUCATIONAL METHODS.
YOU'VE BEEN CLEAR.
CAN I SAY GOODBYE TO SID AND NACY?
I'D PREFER YOU DON'T.
GOODBYE, JUDITH!


"HE'S THE GREATEST ENISMA I'VE EVER COME ACROSS IN MY CAREER AS SUPERHERO."
"FOR YEARS I'VE DEALT WITH HIM AND STILL I DON'T KNOW WHO HE REALLY IS."
"SOMETIMES WE WERE ALLIES, OTHER TIMES WE FOUGHT AGAINST EACH OTHER, AS SWORN ENEMIES."
"I DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS, I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE WANTS."
FINE